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MUKTI-TIRTHA

ANDAMAN

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REFERENCE BOOK

EX-ANDAMAN POLITICAL PRISONERS' FRATERNITY CIRCLE

Andamans and 1857

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The Great Revolt of 1857 is of singular significance in the history of the penal settlement at Port Blair in Andaman Islands. The freedom fighters of 1857, the so-called 'mutineers', were the pioneers among the political prisoners who were sentenced to transportation for life and banished beyond the mainland of India to the 'Kala Pani' of Andamans. Their number was so overwhelmingly large that the British Government found it practically impossible to accommodate them for such a long period either in the existing jails in mainland India or even in the few jails available in other British colonies in South and South-East Asia. They were compelled to reoccupy the Islands abandoned by themselves more than 60 years ago on account of its unhealthiness and the high mortality rate of settlers, mainly with a view to lodging the 'mutineers' sentenced to life terms. The health of the 'mutineers' was hardly the concern of a Government which had sentenced them to hard labour for the rest of their lives. Nor could it be expected from those who had not hesitated in the least to massacre thousands, to hang hundreds, from the nearest trees and to set hounds upon even dead bodies, to blow off patriots from cannons in their mad fury and lust for revenge, for their having dared to attempt the overthrow of the British rule. The British had perpetrated such atrocities and barbarities in the holocaust of 1857 that banishing rebels to primeval forests to suffer every manner of hardship was among the lesser of their crimes.

It needs to be emphasized that the Great Revolt of 1857 and the consequent problems faced by the British in accommodating in a segregated manner the large number of captured rebels and 'mutineers' was the direct and immediate cause for re-establishing the penal settlement at Port Blair. This was made clear by the Government of India itself in the very opening paragraph of their communique announcing the decision to re-occupy the Andamans at the beginning of 1858 thus: "It has been determind by Right Hon'ble the Governor-General in Council to establish a penal settlement on the Andaman Islands, *for the reception in the first instance of convicts sentenced to imprisonment, and to transportation for the crimes of mutiny and rebellion and for other offences connected therewith,* and eventually for the reception of all convicts under sentence of transportation whom, for any reason, it may not be thought expedient to send to the Straits Settlements or to the Tenasserim Provinces." (Home Judicial, OC No. 21, 15 Jan. 1858). The reason why it was considered inexpedient to send the 'mutineers' to these other overseas jails though not explicitly stated can be easily guessed. There was a lurking fear in the British mind that mutinous sepoys

with their revolutionary ideas might spread sedition among fellow-convicts in these other overseas jails. The best solution to the situation was to segregate them in an altogether separate colony, of course far away from the mainland.

If we briefly look at the account of previous British connection with the Andamans the crucial significance of the 1857 Revolt in this connection becomes clearly manifest. Capt. Blair had been directed to occupy Andamans in 1789 mainly for providing safe harbour to the East India Company's ships in the monsoons, the place to be developed with convict labour. But the settlers found it extremely malarious and the Company discovered it to be too expensive to be maintained. So the colony was closed in 1796 and thereafter the Company lost all interest in Andamans. This lack of interest is evident from the fact that the sad fate of the shipwrecked crew which was looted by the Andamanese in 1849 came to the notice of the Court of Directors only after five years in 1854. The following year the Court suggested to their Governor-General-in-Council to reoccupy the Andamans to provide protection to the ship-wrecked crew and to set up a penal colony there. Lord Canning and his Council unanimously opposed the idea on the ground that there were already other penal colonies elsewhere; to maintain one more at Andamans was not worth the expense nor would it provide any protection to ships. The Court was not powerful enough to overcome such opposition. They could only ask for more information. The lukewarm Governor-General-in Council provided it only by sending available information and not by gathering it with actual exploration which the Court had suggested. But the Great Revolt broke out on 10 May 1857 and mutineers began to be arrested in thousands. Interest in the Andamans as a possible penal colony to lodge them was suddenly revived and the Government of India appointed an Andaman Committee on 20th November 1857 to actually explore the islands for resettling the penal colony.

These facts have been noted and duly acknowledged by two recent historians of Andamans (Dr. L. P. Mathur, *History of the Andamans & Nicober Islands, Sterling Publishers*, Delhi, 1968 and Dr. R.C. Majumdar, *Penal Settlement in Andamans*, Publications Division, Government of India, New Delhi, 1975). But both of them have presented them in such a manner as to imply that the Revolt was an additional and not a prime factor in the resettlement of the Port Blair Penal colony. Dr. Majumdar even goes to the extent of contradicting himself thus (*op cit*. pp. 62-63): ... "there is no basis for the popular view that a Penal Settlement was re-established in the Andamans only, or even mainly, for the accommodation of the mutinous sepoys because their residence in an Indian prison was regarded as insecure and dangerous for the risk involved in their contaminating fellow-prisoners with revolutionary ideas. The wording of the Government communique' quoted earlier and the facts stated above should leave no doubt that the popular view is correct and fully substantiated. But for the Revolt of 1857 the Government of India would have continued to dither with the issue of resettling the Port Blair colony in their usual dilatory fashion.

Who were the Mutineers actually sent

to Andamans ? One would very much like to know at least the names of the pioneer freedom fighters. Unfortunately the Government archives are silent as the rolls of the 'Mutineers' sent to the Andamans are not traceable among the records housed in the National Archives, and the jail records at Port Blair itself were destroyed during the Japanese occupation of the Islands. It is possible that these have been preserved in the India Office Records and Library in London. A thorough study of all the proceedings of the Military Department and of the Jails and Judicial Branches of Home Department for 1858-60, either in the National Archives or at the India Office might yield some names, but this is an assignment which will take years to be completed Yet other sources of information are the records of the Port Commissioners of Karachi, Calcutta and Madras. The Government of India had contemplated the despatch of 216 convict mutineers' from the Punjab via Karachi (para 16, of Government's letter *op. cit.*). But the first batch of 200 convicts reached Port Blair under Dr. J. P. Walker on 10th March 1858 having left Calcutta on 4th March 1858. The Port Commissioners records should contain passenger lists. It would not be unlikely if some batches of mutineers in the south were sent from Madras.

While complete lists are lacking a few names have come down to us either through official archives or memories and biographies of individuals. The compilers of *Who's Who of Indian Martyrs* Vol. III (Publications Division, Government of India, New Delhi, 1973) claim to have conducted diligent and laborious research among the non-official archives and given us 12 names of those martyrs of 1857 who died in 'overseas' jail. Undoubtedly, as seen before there were such jails at Moulmein (Burma), Penang and Singapore (Malaysia) in 1858. But these were already overcrowded and the Port Blair settlement had been specifically re-established to receive 'mutineers' and 'rebels'. It would be therefore a safe guess to presume that these 12 men died in Andamans. The names are : (1) Bahadur Singh, (2) Devi, (3) Futta, (4) Gulab Khan, (5) Jawahar Singh, (6) Mahibullah, (7) Manju Shah, (8) Maya Ram, (9) Noora, (10) Qaim Khan, (11) Sirajuddin and (12) Venkat Rao. The first eleven were residents of Nimar region in Madhya Pradesh, rose in revolt at Mandaleshwar in 1857, were captured and transported for life. The last Venkat Rao was a resident of Raipur district in Madhya Pradesh and landlord of Arpally. He organised Gonds, Marias and Rohillas against the British, joined the rebels at Raipur and attacked British positions. On being defeated he sought shelter at Bastar, the raja of which however betrayed him ending in his transportation and then death in Andamans. The Mandaleshwar rebels appear to have been Bhilpatriots organised by Tulsi Ram of Nimar who was himself captured in 1862 and sentenced to death. Dr. Hira Lal Gupta (Prof. and Head of History Department, Saugor University), project officer for Madhya Pradesh can perhaps vouchsafe for these names.

The *Who's Who* is, however, more specific about names of *eight patriots of 1858* who, it is clearly stated, met death in the Andamans. Of these Fazlul-Hug (1797-1861), Maulavi from Khairabad (Sitapur Dist., U.P.), resigned the office of *Sarishtadar* of Delhi Residency to join the Revolt.

It is he who drew up the constitution for liberated Delhi. After the fall of Delhi he returned to Khairabad but was captured. He was a friend of Mirza Ghalib, the famous Urdu poet, who confirms this name. Liaqat Ali, Maulavi from Allahabad, assumed the leadership of the rebel army there. Defeated on 12 July 1857 he escaped with his wife and few followers to Bombay via Sachin (near Surat). But before he could board the ship for Haj he was captured, destined to die in Andamans, we do not know exactly when. Syed Alaud-Din, yet another Maulavi, was among those who attacked the Hyderabad Residency on 17 July 1857. Almost two years later (28 June, 1859), he was sent to Andamans. Tragically he died in 1884 when he was about to complete his life sentence. Himanohal Singh and Kura Singh, father and son, could not succeed in defending against the British their village Than Bhavan (Muzaffarnagar Dist., U.P.); the father is stated to have sufferd for 35 years in Andamans while the year of the son 's death is not known. Hatte Singh, the brave zamindar of Ghess (orissa) fought ceaselessly against the British till 1865 with his whole family and friends. His father, brothers and friends were executed while he was transported to Andamans to die. A temporary amnesty failed to subdue this courageous family. Bhima Naik, the Bhil chieftain of Dholi Bowlee (Barwani state, Nimar, Madhya Pradesh) with his band of tribals fought alongside Tatya Tope, escaped into the forest when defeated by Capt. Keatings in 1859, and could be captured only two years later to die in Andamans. Garbadas Patel, headman of Anand (now famous for its dairy products, Kaira Dist., Gujarat) attacked the British camp at Lotia Bhagol (Gujarat), was arrested and met his death in Andamans.

A difficulty with the *Who's Who* is that no sources on which the information is based have been indicated. The editor admits that there could be errors. The same problem faces us when Dr. L. P. Mathur mentions, without naming the source one Mir Jafar Ali *Thaneshwari* who is alleged to have returned from Andamans after 20 years penal servitude (*op. cit.* p. 196, footnote 1). Considering the hardships of 1858 prisoners in Andamans where death was the only escape Thaneshwari would be a singular exception. A few survivors to be counted on one's fingertips, settled down in Andamans itself on release.

On the contrary the names mentioned in the official records are completely authentic. Two of them, Narayan and Niranjan Singh, are mentioned in Dr. J. P. Walker's letter to the Government (Selection from the Records of the Government of India. Home Deptt. No. XXV, pp. 77-84). We quote him : "On the 4th day after arrival, Convict No. 61, Narain, sentenced on the 31st July last to transportation for life for having excited sedition in the Cantonment of Dinapore (Danapur, Bihar) where he was a camp follower in the Bazar, after failing in an attempt to excite the convicts with whom he was working to rebel, attempted to escape from Chatham Island by swimming to the main land, and nearly succeeded. He was made to alter his course by being fired upon and was captured by a boat's crew. He was at once brought to trial, convicted of sedition and escaping, sentenced to suffer death, and executed. On the same day and about the same time, *Convict 46 Naringun Singh* (Niranjan Singh), sentenced at Nuddea for transportation for life for desertion, committed suicide by hanging himself,

without any known cause, at a secluded spot of Ross Island." A superintendent of convicts, empowered to shoot at sight, can hardly be expected to specify the cause of such suicide even if he cared enough to know it. It is obvious to us that Niranjan Singh was not strong enough to face the grim prospect of untold misery and limitless hardship which could only end in slow death and thus hastened its pace on 14th March 1858. He was thus the precursor of Indu Bhushan Roy in 20th century. Among the 1857 patriots we have also a forerunner for the hunger-strikers of 20th century who sacrificed their lives. His name is Loney Singh *(Who's Who*, Vol. III*)*. The only difference is that while Pandit Ram Raksha, Mahavir Singh, Mohan Kishore and Mohit Moitra died in the Cellular Jail, Loney Singh, resident of Mitauli (Dist. Sitapur, U.P.) refused to take food while he was being transported to Andamans for his rebellious activities in 1857 and died on the way.

The last name that is mentioned with authenticity and certainty in records is that of Dudhnath Tiwari Home Judicial, O.C. No. 30, 5 Oct. 1860), a sepoy of the 14th Regiment of Bengal Native Infantry sentenced on 27th September 1857 by the Commissioner of Jhelum to transportation beyond seas for life with labour in irons for crimes of mutiny and desertion. Within six weeks of his arrival he, along with 90 others, escaped from Ross Island on 23 April 1858 into the jungles. They were repeatedly attacked by the aborigines a number of them thus killed. The rest were starved to death. Only wounded Dudhnath survived, taken into the aborigine fold and even married to their girls. He lived with them for about a year, returned to the British camp to inform them of the aborigines' attack on Aberdeen on 17th May 1859 ("battle of Aberdeen") and granted pardon for these services. He also became a sort of authority on the aborigines of Andamans, having had intimate intercourse with them, probably in their own language. Whether one can share British appreciation of Dudhnath's 'services' is a matter of one's personal predilections.

Thus we have only *25 names* of 'mutineers' to go by. Even the total number of such transportees is a matter of pure speculation in the absence of nominal rolls. Says Dr. R. C. Majumdar: (*op. cit.* p. 233, note no: 2), "An ex-political prisoner of the Cellular Jail estimates the number to be about three thousand. Immediately after this he states, with reference to sepoy prisoners, that recently a memorial to these sepoy martyrs, has been erected in Port Blair in a park on the sea beach adjacent to the Zimkhana grounds and quite close to the Cellular Jail. But he does not clearly say that the number 3,000 is engraved on the memorial *(Muktitirtha Andaman, p.* 9). The number 3,000 seems to be a highly exaggerated figure." In my copy of the *Muktitirtha* the said estimate occurs on p. 10 and there is no reference in it at all to the sepoy memorial at Port Blair. Whatever that be Dr. Majumdar offers no guess of his own regarding the total number of 1858 transportees. However, he informs us (*op. cit.* p. 108) that the total number of convicts during Col. Tyler's period (May 1862-64) was *3,294*. Thus we have an outside limit to go by: the task of suppressing and sentencing mutineers went on beyond 1860 as indicated by a few available names. We know that Dr. Walker arrived at Port Blair with 200 convicts on 10th

March 1858 and reported the arrival of another 171 convicts from Karachi by April 1858. Thus we have the inside limit of 371 transportees. Working upon the inside limit of 371 by April 1858 and the outside limit of 3294 by May 1864 it would be a fair guess if we place the the total number of mutineer deportees to Andamans between 2000 and 2500 and are rather inclined towards the latter. We must not forget in this context that the Andamans were reoccupied mainly to accommodate the mutineers.

Among the political prisoners who were banished to the Andamans the lot of the mutineers was the hardest. Though they were transported for 'life' death hung over them like a hungry vulture and overshadowed their extremely miserable life. In fact Walker reported the death of 4 Punjab mutineers on the way even before their arrival and a considerable number of them were already sick. *(op. cit.)* Within 3 months 64 of them died in hospital. (Majumdar, *op. cit.* p. 62). We have already referred to the suicide of Niranjan Singh and the execution of Narayan. Like Narayan. 228 others tried to escape between March-April 1858, just like him 88 of them were recaptured and executed by Walker on one single day. The fate of those who escaped death at British hands was no better. There was little chance of their escaping death either by hunger or at the hands of savage aborigines or by disease. (Majumdar, *op. cit.*, p. 81) ; Walker has given us a graphic picture of the fate of one such escapee who delivered himself up to the British, "He was in a debilitated state from want of food and water, and covered with vermin, that infested even his ears and eyelides, adhering so firmly that he could not remove them. He stated, that having along with others been duped by a 'fellow-prisoner,' who pretended to have held communication with one of the aborigines, who promised assistance on the part of a Rajah, they escaped, and after traversing the south of the Great Andaman by the sea shore, during which they underwent great hardships from want of food, and especially fresh water, were attacked by about one hundred savage aborigine, one of whose first arrows inflicted a mortal wound on the convictleader. The returned convict, at the time escaping into the jungle, heard the fight proceeding for some time, and was under the impression that all his companions were massacred. Guided by the morning and evening suns he directed his course towardes Port Blair, which he reached in three days, during which he had not met with water. He observed traces of the aborigines in his course hitherwards, but carefully avoided the tracks. His accounts of the privations he suffered has had a good effect upon the other convicts, none of whom have since tried to escape". (Walker, *op. cit.*).

But death was always lurking round the corner even for those who did not intend or dare to escape. The hostility of the aborigines to all stranger was most unrelenting in the initial stage of the penal colony according to Walker-Instead of trying to conciliate them as advised by the suprme Government he adopted an aggressive policy of provoking them. They in turn made organised attacks. In one such attack on 6 April 1859 three convicts were killed on the spot and six were wounded out of which one died subsequently in the hospital. The story was repeated on 14 April 1859 and by a coincidence the same number of

convicts were killed or wounded. Surprisingly on this occasion the aborigines wanted to attack the convict-leaders rather than the convicts themselves. On 13 November 1859 they attacked some escaped convicts and wounded them.. (Mathur,, *Op. cit.*, pp. 73-78).

Exposure to attacks from the aborigines was only one form of hardship which the pioneer freedom fighters faced. They were put to the hardest possible labour, that of clearing the jungles. "The magnitude of the task of clearing the primeval jungles of the Andaman Islands can only be appreciated by those who have witnessed the nature of the vegetation and the difficulty of effecting a clearance. The jungle is so dense, and its entanglement by gigantic creepers so complete, as to render it impassable except along the few pathways used by the aborigines. The jungle, so far as known, is continuous, no open plains having been observed. Even when cut, often trees cannot be got to fall without great force, nor brushwood when cut removed, owing to the intricate binding by creepers of great strength. There is great difficulty even during the present dry weather in getting brushwood that has been several days felled to burn, and the largest heaps are constantly extinguished at night by the very heavy dews that fall, drenching everything exposed." (Walker, *Op. cit*) Even Barin Ghose in the 20th century considered that clearing forests was the hardest possible task. "Even oil-grinding in the Cellular is an easier task than any work outside whether in the Forest Dept..." etc. (Majumdar, *op. cit.*, p. 259). "Some of the works imposed upon the prisoners, such as cutting wood in the forest, preparing brick and lime, extracting rubber are really so difficult that very often they try to run away in fright and many commit suicide when not able to get back home." (*op. cit*. p. 263). If such was the condition in the 20th century one can imagine the plight of the pioneers who, even if used to the hard and rough life of a sepoy, could not have been ever accustomed to this kind of labour. As we have noted earlier a few of the mutineers were men of learning like the Maulavis, or belonged to the zamindar class for whom all manual labour was done by their servants. On top of it the first Superintendent Walker adopted measures of 'merciless severity' towards the prisoners and fetters were put on them even while they were engaged in work. (*op. cit.* p. 125).

And what did these mutineers get for their work performed under severe conditions? A daily allowance of one anna and nine pies which was supposed to suffice for their food, clothing and whatever else they wanted! Robert Nepier wrote in 1863, "It is difficult to know exactly how they live on this subsistence allowance—one inevitable result was that the convicts could spend very little on clothing ...Nothing has more forcibly struck the President in Council during his inspection of the Penal Settlement than the miserable appearance of the working convicts most of whom appear scarcely to have a rag to cover them." (*op. cit.* p. 121)

The life of the mutineers in Andamans was made all the more miserable by the complete absence of any rules and regulations. Walker, the first Superintendent, was armed with enormous powers and did whatever suited his whim and fancy at the movement. His wholesale execution of convicts

who were captured after their escape was severely condemned by the Government of India. But that Government was situated far away, and Walker was the man on the spot to do what he pleased. Later writers have tried to whitewash Walker : "The men he had to deal with were mutineers .. they were desperate men who had passed through desperate scenes...without hope of release, with little to lose and much to gain by resorting to desperate measures for escape. The horrors of the Mutiny were still fresh in the minds of everyone and at this time, the sternest repressive measures exercised towards men who had been concerned in the revolts would no doubt, have had the approval of the general public whatever may have been the opinion or policy of the Government." (Census Report, 1911). But what was the opinion of the Government of India which sent these mutineers to Andamans in the first place ? "It may be assumed that the class of rebels and mutineers who are sentenced by the Civil and Military tribunals to the secondary punishment of transportation, or to imprisonment will not include any of the worst offenders, and therefore that the convicts with whom you will have to deal in the first instance, will, for the most part, be men who have been led to the commission of crimes against the state by the example of others and not men of a desperate or unmanageable character" (Government communique' dt. 15 Jan. 1858, *op. cit.*, para 6).

In the same letter they again stressed that "the character of very many of the convicts themselves will not be that of morally degraded but of grievous political offenders." The Government of India wanted the convicts to bring their families to Andamans, but no family was prepared to cross the seas for fear of losing caste. Thus the mutineers in Andamans were completely cut off from their families. Even the few who survived the rigours of Andaman life and could become self-supporters on account of good conduct were compelled to marry female convicts. The mutineers were the first freedom fighters to suffer from the brutalising and degrading effects of association with vicious criminals so perceptively described by Barindra Ghose in 20th century. The highminded, patriotic mutineers were thrown into the company of those hardened criminals who had committed the most heinous crimes against humanity. The worst feature of Walker's administration which was thoroughly condemned by Maj. Davies in 1867 was this abolition of distinction between political and ordinary crime. Davies also felt very much concerned over the high rate of mortality among convicts. (Mathur, *op. cit.* p-136).

Walker was no better than a slave-driver and it is no wonder that on *1st April 1859* there was an attempt on Walker's life by the convicts. Walker had been forewarned and anyhow escaped miraculously. The plot had been hatched by the Punjabi convicts. Dr. Mathur is of the opinion that the mutineers were not a party to this plot (*op. cit.* pp. 133-34), but he does not inform us the basis for this statement. On the contrary we suspect that the convicts concerned were the Punjab mutineers who were sent from Karachi by the ships the *Roman Emperor* and the *Edward* in March-April 1858.

Of late there have been attempts by learned historians to underplay and downgrade

the role of mutineers of 1857 in our freedom struggle. But whatever label we may attach to the Great Revolt of 1857 can anyone deny that it was the basic urge for freedom for motherland that prompted the large number of mutineers to risk their life and liberty ? Many of them were killed outright and the rest faced slow death in the Andamans. Not one of them ever returned alive to India. Those who tried to escape were either executed or fell victims to the aborigines, diseases or starvation. In fact there was no escape from permanent exile and death. What a life was led by those who somehow survived ! They were constantly engaged in clearing primeval jungles with fetters on their feet, hardest labour to which they were not accustomed. With the pittance they got for their labour they could hardly buy enough food to keep body and soul together. They had nothing but rags to wear and even these were soaked in the incessant rains with not even a place to dry them. Aborigines wounded them, malaria weakened them, insects in the jungles attacked them and diseases of all descriptions debilitated them for which there was hardly any medical aid. They were bossed over by hardened criminals with whom they had to share their miserable life, and heartless authorities did what they liked with them. They could be flogged without enquiry. They were completely cut off from their families and friends. Harsh words and harsh treatment was their daily diet. There was no hope whatever of returning to the motherland. If they did not die all they could look forward to was leading an animal life with a female convict on an inhospitable island in case they were released. We do not even fully know the names of those who thus languished in the Kala Pani for the sake of the freedom of their motherland. The mutineers of 1857 transpord to Andamans are the heroes of our freedom struggle who have died unnamed, unhonoured, unrewarded, unsung. The least and perhaps the only thing we can do for them, now that even their descendants are practically extinct, is to recognise their sacrifice, sufferings and service in the cause of our freedom.

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fortified with bamboo stockades. Grains and arms were collected and stored. Many peasant youth joiued the Militia organised by Mir Masum under Mir Nasarali, popularly known as Titumir, very soon. Titu took up the cause of the Muslim ryots oppressed by the Zamin-ders of Purnea and the local governor of indi-go factory at Baduria.

During the later stage when the political objective became precise and clear the esta-blishment of free Islamic republic by driving the foreigners—all section of people, both Hindus and Muslims, particularly of the opp-ressed sections of the peasantry flocked round his banner of revolt—known in history as Barast uprising (1831, 17th November).

In two battles a detachment of Calcutta militia was routed,

One Alexander ran for his life pursued by the insurgents, with drawn swords and esca-ped with great hazards. Many officers were heavily injured.

Second defeat came close on the heel when another attack was organised by the European planters, along with few hundred native Burkandaz. They were on the run as soon as thousands of armed peasantry laun-ched their counterattack with swords and spears and with other indegenous weapons they could collect under their leader Masum.

Hearing the news of disaster Government of India sent a detachment consisting of 10 regiments of N. I. troop of horse artillery with a few guns.

Two armies met at Narkelberia, superior firing power ultimately decided the issue.

Titu fell fighting heroically. (3rd December 1832) Golum Masum the Commander, along with 300 followers were taken prisoner. They were tried at Alipore, Masum died at the gallows and the others were sentenced to transpornation for life.

Thus came to an end the brief but inspi-ring episode of Barasat uprising.

In Bengali ballads and folk songs he is still remembered as an anti-imperialist freedom fighter, an immortal martyr to the cause of India's freedom.

At a time when Nasarali's (Titu) short but resplendent revolt came to an end Mahmed Mohashin widely known as Dudu Mia—took up the cause of his great father by boldly championing the cause of oppressed peasan-try of East Bengal. The socio-religious reform of his father brought about an unprecedented awakening amongst the rural poor. Retur-ning from Mecca young Dudu Mia contem-plated to establish an independent state by ending the rule of the foreigners. Thus he lifted the consciousness of the people to a higher revolutionary political level by urging them to join the freedom struggle.

The message of freedom from all kinds of explitation, the deep sympathy for the pea-sants, artisans and the rural poor at once made him the friend, guide and philosopher of his people.

Under Dudu Mia a qualitative change took place in the character of the movement. Dudu Mia formulated an well ordered admini-strative structure which is known as Farazi Khilafat.

(1) First, to establish a free state he successfully organised an army, armed With in degenious weapons.

(2) Secondly, he organised panchayats having two different wings, political and reli-gions.

The supreme head was called Ustad (Ostad), they were assisted by Khalifas.

Thus an elaborate arrangement was made to divide the entire administration into differ-ent units according to the minutest function.

From the police sources it is gathered that the number of supporters of Dudu Mia was nearly 80,000. His Khalifas looked after the organisations mostly in the districts of Barasat, Jessore, Pabna, Maldah and Dacca. Besides another important feature to note that Farazis were opposed by the wealthy Muslims and ignored by the urban Muslim aristocracy. By and large it had been accepted as fighting creed of the poorer section of the Muslim peasantry and artisans.

In 1847, he led an armed battle against the combination of Indigo planters and Zaminders. He was arrested and tried—but was aquited due to lack ot evidence.

But due to his tremendous popularity and wide influences he was finally put to confinement in the Alipore Jail as a state prisoner when Northern India was convulsed in the great uprising in 1857.

After the suppression of the uprising he was released in 1859. But again he was arrested as soon as he returned to his native village, After ten years in jail his health was shattered: He died as an uncompromising champion of the poor and oppressed Kisans of Bengal leaving a revolutionary legacy to the future fighters for freedom, democracy and sociolism.

Next we recount the third current of freedom battle which lay in the main stream of Wahabis.

As we have seen Shyed Ahmed Brelhvi, the Chief architect of the concept of Freedom from British rule was compelled to detract his major attention to fight the Sheik mandarin's oppressive rule on the peasantry of Sindh, who were mostly Muslims.

It was more so, since the Sheik principality was under the protective umbrella of British power.

In the battle of Ballakote in May, 1831, Shyed Ahmed was killed in action and his army was routed. The death of two anti-British leaders for the time being sufferred a set back for the cause of Wahabi movement.

It took nearly a decade to repair the damage and bring back the thread of freedom struggle again on the Indian scene.

In 1843 while Dudu Mia actively moving in Eastern Bengal to organise his peasant army, Patna became the headquarter of contending stratagem with its link throughout India leading to Sitana camp at the far end of North-Western Frontier region.

The two brothers Enayet Ali and Vilayet Ali of Patna, Karamat Ali of Jaunpore and Zainuddin of Hyderabad started anti-Government activities to end British domination in India. Their real leader during the period was however Pir of Berrily Imta Zimain.

The Ali Brothers Wahabi movement found indefatigable missionaries, self-sacrificing indefatigable fighters and supremely devoted to the overthrow of British Raj. In fact the history of the Wahabi movement at least from 1831-1858 was to a great extent the history of the activities of Vilayet Ali and Enayet Ali of the Sadiquepur family of patna.

They came in contact with Shyed Ahmed when they were in Lucknow for education. Afterwards they became his disciple. Subsequently they were put in charge by Shyed Ahmed with their headquarter at Patna.

After the beath of Shyed Ahmed they kept on working alternatly in such far flung places as the Sitana in North-West Frontier, Rajmahal, Malda and Chittagong in East Bengal. They were the pioneers in perfecting a System of relay of men and money from India which continued with wonderful efficiency.

All this work was organised under the direcrion of the local Chief who was also descrided as the Khalifa.

Among the Khalifa as appointed by Shyed Ahmed himself from Patna were Muhammad Hussain, Vilayet Ali and Mazhar Ali. They in their turn had been authorised to appoint their own Khalifas.

Each Khalifa was assisted by a committee of Counsellors, a Minister of War, Finance etc. The committee members were imbued with the same spirit of sacrifice and setvice and the syetem worked smoothly on the basis of tacit understanding.

Due to the untiring efforts of these Khalifa the Eastern most district of Sylhet, Tripura along with various other districts of Bengal and cities like Patna, Varanasi and Kanpur, Delhi, Thaneswar, Pubala, Amritsar, Jhelum, Rawalpindi, Atock, Peshwar active centres were established. Besides, Wahabism attrdcted many adherents in Bombay, M. P. and Hyderabad.

After 1847 when the whole of the Punjab went to the direct occupation of British Raj, the Wahabi movement assumed its real anti-British, anti-Imperialist colour. They started full preparation for a total war against British rule in India from the base camp at Sitana.

It was a time when Vilayet Ali became the unquestioned leader of the Wahabis with his head-quarter at Patna. In 1849 he started towards Sitana followed by his brother, Enayet Ali who took full charge after the death of his brother in 1852. He was associated by Karamali in his attempt to invade British territory in North-West Frontier. It was a period of great uprising of 1857.

The activities of the Wahabis were Intensified in North-West Frontier where by a series of hit and run onslaughts they created panic within British camp.

Although the Wahabis were late to realise the national significance of the great uprising of 1857 yet they provided local leadership in many places particularly Delhi, Agra, Hyderabad and Patna. It has been mare known that many Wahabis joined insurgents from Bhopal, Jaipur and Hissar and entered Delhi.

The Wahabis had provided a solid organisational base which was copied and utilised directly by some of the Non-wahabi leaders of the great uprising of 1857-58. It also enabled the Wahabis themselves at some places to capture the leadership of Mutiny e.g. in Delhi.

It is incorrect to maintain that the Wahabis did not fight against the English at all.

While Enayet Ali was actively waging war on the Frontier during 1957-58, their compatriots in Bihar could not make much headway. Main leaders were treacherously arrested, e. g. Ahmedullah, Muhammad Hussain and Waizul Hoque. The younger leaders like Farhat Hussain decided to go underground and prepared to strike back during Ambala Campaign in 1863 in the midst of terrific repression let loose, in the wake of defeat of the great uprising.

The period 1863-65 witnessed, series of state trials by which all ring leaders of these seditious community were arrested. Ambala trial in 1864, Patna trial in 1865, were closely interlinked. Yahya Ali, Muhamed Jafar and Md. Shafi were sentenced to death and rest to transportation for life. All the properties of the convicts were confiscated. But high court commuted the death sentence to transportation for life.

Ambala Judgment throws some lights on some of the leaders of the Wahabi rebels.

On Yahya Ali :—"He has been the main spring of the great treason which this trial had laid bare. He has drawn hundreds and thousands of his country men into treason and rebellion. He has plunged the Govt. of

British India by his constant intrigues into a Frontier war which has cost hundreds of lives. He is a highly educated man who can plead no excuse of ignotrance. What he had done, he has done with fore-thought, resolution and bitter teason".

On Jafar :—"It is impossible to exceed the bitter hostility, the treasonable and mischievous ability of this prisoner. He is an educated man and a 'Headman' in his village. There is no doubt of his guilt and no palliation of it".

Like Yahya and Jafar, Ahmedullah was another important figure in Patna trial who along with Fayezali, Yahya Ali and Furhat Ali, moved from Sitana and Rajmahal and got himself implicated in activities to end British rule during and after the Mutiny. He was a man of high social distinction and was a salaried Govt. Offical. He was sentenced to death on 27th February 1865 at the end of Patna trial and his properties were confiscated. High Court commuted the death sentence to transportation for life and he was sent to Andaman Island in June 1865.

Patna trial (1865) was followed by Malda Trial (Sept. 1870), Rajmahal trial (October 1870) Wahabi trial (1870-71).

In all the trials the main charge against them was to conspire and wage war against the queen Empress.

Even after Patna trial in 1868. Wahabis under the leadership of Mubarak Ali of Patna rose in rebellion at Sitana. But the revolt was put down with a heavy hand.

In Malda trial (1870) Mr. Amiruddin, the son of famous Wahabi leader Rafique Mandal was convicted to life imprisonment and his property was also confiscated. After hearing the judgement, octogenarian Rafique Mandal embraced his son with great warmth and affection and cried "My son has not left his faith. He is prepared to loose his son if he (son) remains loyal and consistent to his new ideal".

In Rajmahal trial (1870) Wahabi leader Ibrahim Mandal of Islampur was sentenced to transportation for life and was sent to Andaman island. He was found to organise movement at Malda, Rajshahi, Bogura, Rangpur and Dinajpur, and collected funds. He was considered to be the most honest, upright and respected figure during his time.

In 1869 July, Amir Khan and Hasmat Khan, two leather merchants of Collutola, Calcutta, were arrested on charge of raising funds for crusade against British rule. They were kept in detention for years and later on five of the accused persons were sentenced to life imprisonment and were sent to Andaman. Chief Justice Norman of Calcutta High Court rejected their appeal.

In 1871. 20th September Md. Abdullah assassinated Chief Justice Norman in front of Calcutta Town Hall. He courted Hangman's rope like a valiant Martyr.

In 1872, one Md. Sherali a wahabi convict of Andaman island assassinated Lord Mayo—while he (Mayo) was returning from Mt. Herriot. The incident occured near Hopetown Jetty.

Indian revolutionaries of later days consider Sherali as a martyr to the cause of India's struggle for freedom.

According to Isharee Prasad, a very active inteligence officer entrusted to tackle the wahabis—Bhopal, Patna, Rangoon. Sahabad became few centres where the Wahabi crusaders tried to reorganise the ambers of revolt under garb of religious tours. They even tried to sow dissatisfaction amongst fauj and Government officials as late as 1881.

The popular basis of the Wahabi movement stands vindicated by its well knit and integrated organisation drawing recruits from the whole expanse of India extending from Dacca to Peshawar. More so since 1847, when Hindus showed sympathy to this movement though there may not be general involvement of Hindu masses. But their sympathies are unmistakably clear. British Govt. felt very much concerned and arrested many Hindus as well. It has also to be admitted that of all the movements which the British rule in India called into existence, the Wahabi movement was the most remorselessly anti-British and this sequence was maintained in all their activities.

In later years when many of Indian revolutionaries were sent to the cellular Jail in Andaman, Trailakya Maharaj, one of the foremost revolutionary leaders of India, who was incarcerated in Cellular Jail during the first world war period, paid warm tribute to the rebel pioneers in these words—"The Wahabi revolutionary brothers gave us practical lessons of unbending audacity and unflexible will and also advised to learn from their mistakes".

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Penal Settlement in the Andamans

1910-1916 and 1916-1920

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To most Indians of the present day the memory of the Penal Settlement of the Andamans is associated with its Cellular Jail. For, within its solitary Cells were confined, for years together, the revolutionary patriots of India who were engaged in a long arduous and bitter struggle for freedom since the beginning of the present century. the original object of establishing a settlement in the Andamans was to safeguard the Vessels cruising in the neighbouring sea, in particular those which were in distress or were wrecked near the coast, as the savage inhabitants of the islands plundered the ships and murdered the occupants. In other words, a regular settlement in the islands was regarded as the only effectual remedy for the security of the vessels plying in the region as well as the guarantee for the lives of their passengers and sailors. As penal settlements had already been established in different localities for special types of criminal prisoners in South-East Asia, this idea was naturally combined with the other, and it was decided to establish a convicts settlements in the Andamans in 1858.

To this original object was added another important motive after the outbreak of Sepoy Revolt in 1857. It was naturally thought that a settlement in the Andamans would be a very suitable place for keeping not only criminals who were sentenced to transportation for life, but also prisoners of the type of mutineers and revolutioneries, for it was not desirable to keep these dangerous men along with ordinary prisoners in an Indian Jail, as the anti-British feeling might spread from the former to the latter.

The Sepoy Revolt of 1857 thus supplied the first batch of political prisoners lodged in the Andaman jails. Though a large number of mutineers must have been transported to the Andamans, their total number is not known, and no reliable record of the individual prisoners is available. It is known, however, that two important leaders of the Mutiny, well known for their moral character and high learning, lived and died in the Andamans as prisoners. These were Alma Fazli Haq Kairabadi and Maulana Liaquat Aly. Another mutineer, Mir Jafar Ali Thaneswari, spent twenty years of penal servitude in the Andamans.

Next class of important political prisoners sent to the Andamans consisted of the Wahabi convicts. In this case too though we know in a general way that a large number of Wahabis were sent there, neither the total number nor details of individual prisoners are available.

It is known, however, that two Wahabis among those tried in Calcutta and two others, Amir Chand of Calcutta and Tobruk Ali tried in Patna, were sentenced to transportation for life, and all of them were probably sent to the Andamans. Quite a large number of Burmese of Tharawadda

prisoners as "a despicable lot", 'vagrant wretches' and 'the Scum of Society'. Once he said "Look here, Jamadar, if these fellows do not complete their task by the afternoon bring them up to me. I will cane them, all right. I will cane them on the buttocks till they burst."

In doing all these Barry merely gave effect to the decision of the Government of India.

The oil-grinding was the most difficult work. A new Superintendent allotted this task to the political prisoners. This was the hardest work and caused the death of some, insanity of one and a general strike of the prisoners and has been described in all the three memoirs mentioned above; as the cause of the greatest misery...

Upendra Nath Banerjee says about himself: 'Most of the prisoners that had come before me in this Jail from the Indian Mutiny of 1857 onwards, on transportation for life, did not return alive to India. I learnt this fact and realised the horror of it while I was myself passing through the sentence of hard labour. I often felt that I should take a rope and put an end to my life forthwith to end all my troubles."

There was, however, one prisoner who outwitted the aurhorities by his 'passive resistance' to work the oil-mill. This was *Nand Gopal* Editor of the *Swaraj* of Allahabad. An account of his unique attitude to defy the authorities at all costs has been given by Barin Ghosh, Savarkar and Upendra Bandopadhya in their memoirs and they all agree on essential points. The following account of Barin may therefore be accepted as a true version and how it led to the first strike of the political prisoners in the Cellular Jail.

"Nanda Gopal was a Punjabi Kshatriya, tall in stature and handsome in appearance. He created a scene when taken to the oil-mill. At the very outset he said point-blank, 'It will not suit me to turn the mill so quickly as all that.' So the machine moved as slowly as possible."

Nanda Gopal's attitude led to the first strike of the political prisoners in the Cellular Jail. It is thus described by Barin: "A general order was passed that everybody should grind oil for three days. Thus over and above the prospect of an indefinite term of imprisonment was added this daily terror of toiling at the mill. Everybody understood that unless some sort of regular arrangment was made as regards our work, we should have to leave our bodies in Port Blair itself. Punishment was, of course, always there in store for us, but why should we punish ourselves? So many of us refused this time to work at the mill, thus the strike began.

"The authorities also were not to be behind hand. They also took rigorous measures.

Punishment continued unabated. When all kinds of fetters had been tried one by one, we were at last confined to cells. This latter affair had also in its turn a variety of forms. The ordinary convicts, when confined, could come down stairs and have their bath and meal. There was also no restriction to their talking to each other. But with regard to ourselves, the orders were that we should not talk to each other and that anybody found speaking to us would be punished. So although it was *Separate Confinement* in name, it was in reality solitary confinement. Many of us had to pass three months or more in this state.

This began to tell upon the health of many: Port Blair was a breeding ground of malaria. The epidemic of fever was a constant factor and now over and above that

began dysentery. The authorities thought perhaps it was too much so decided upon some changes. So a few of us were selected and sent out to the settlement, on the occasion of the Coronation Ceremony.

"But as fate would have it, this arrangement turned out for us to be from the frying pan to the fire. When we were inside the prison, however, difficult the work might have been, we could get fixed and full rations from the Government and we had not to fear the rain and the storm. But once outside, we were deperived of even that comfort.

"To crown all these sufferings, one did not get the full ration. A good part was stolen and sold in the villages.

"However, we had thought so long that once outside the prison our situation would improve a little. But that illusion now vanished entirely."

"So one by one we all of us refused to work outside and came back to the prison."

About this time a very tragic event happened. Indu Bhusan committed suicide by hanging. He was of a strong and robust constitution and was never frightened by physical labour. But the petty insults of Jail life exhausted his patience day by day. He said now and then : "It is impossible for me to pass ten years of my life in this hell". One night he tore his shirt, made a rope out of it and hung himself from the skylight ..... Indu's elder brother petitioned the Government for an enquiry..." But nothing came of it. The whole affair some how ended in oblivion. This was followed by another tragedy : Ullaskar Datta, as a result of hard work, illness and torture became insane. These two tragic episodes not only cast a gloom over the inmates of the Cellular Jail, but made them desperate and take resort to open defiance of the authorities.

The authorities also on their side began to bring out the sharpest weapons they had in their things chiefly : (1) proper food, (2) release from labour and (3) freedom to associate with each other.

"But we were locked up in different cells, each separate from the other by 4 or 5 cells in between....

"In the meanwhile those who were outside struck work en bloc. So, they came back to the prison, each sentenced to three months Nani Gopal was brought back to the prison after he had gone on hunger-strike for 4 days. He was forced to take milk by means of a rubber pipe thrust into his nose. Nani Gopal became lean and emaciated even then the authorities did not hesitate to hang him up by the handcuffs. The result was that the hunger strike spread like wild fire. And however the authorities might try to prevent it, the news about Indu Bhusan, Ullaskar and Nani Gopal reached the country. The press started a vigirous agitation. Nani Gopal was also after considerable difficulty persuaded by his friends to take food. A little after this, those who had come from outside with three months' imprisonment were also sent out again as their term expired. Thus ended the first period of the strike".

Nothing is more likely to give a true picture of the horrors of the Cellular Jail than a detailed account of the chain of events that led to the suicide of Indu Bhusan Roy and insanity of Ullaskar Dutta insine the Jail. These two cases also illustrate, in a manner as nothing else could, the heartlessness, callousness and the equivocal nature of even the highest authority in dealing with the political prisoners in the Cellular Jail. Further, they may be regarded as important factors contributing to the grim determination

of the political prisoners to openly defy the authorities of the Cellular Jail by means of passive resistance in the shape of ceasing to work at any cost.

The two successive strikes of the political prisoners, publication of letters from them in newspapers, newspaper reports about their terrible hardships and sufferings, consequent public agitation and questions asked in the Imperial Legislative Council, and lastly the alleged conspiracy to prepare bombs, at last convinced the Government of India that there was something rotten in the settlement at Port Blair. So the Home Member of the Governor General's Council, Sir Riginal Craddock, visited the Andamans in October, 1913, to see things for himself.

Sir Reginald Craddock's visit to the Andamans had important consequences both in ths Cellular Jail as well as in Delhi. What happened is thus described by Savarkar :

"Sir Reginald Craddock came and went. But no reply was sent to us from India. We decided that something had to be done... With this decision made we went on strike for the third time".

Savarkar continued :

"Except one or two all of us struck work. Sentence after sentence was passed upon us of six months' imprisonment in chains. It was now one month and a half that Nani Gopal had gone on hunger strike. Others deeply touched by his sufferings—some six or seven in number—went on sympathetic hunger strike. They were put in chains."

At last the authorities came to terms with the prisoners and issued a notification of which the more important items, as stated by Savarkar were as follows :—

(1) All the prisoners short of life sentence shall be sent back to their respective prisons in India.

(2) Prisoners for life sentence shall be detained in the prison for a continuous period of 14 years, whereafter they will be set free for some labuur of a light character.

(3) During the period of 14 years, the prisoner shall be given decent food to eat and decent clothes to wear."

According to Savarkar, many of these concessions conformed to the demands, and strikers therefore called off the strike and resumed work.

So far as can be gathered from the official records, there were other concessions too. The more important of these were :—

(1) The substitution of simple imprisonment in place of rigorous imprisonment as a reward of good behaviour of the political prisoners.

(2) Light work in place of exacting and degrading type of work (like grinding of oil).

(3) Supply of books.

(4) Grant of occasional holidays (from work).

(5) Grant of same privileges as enjoyed by ordinary convicts.

Whether Craddock, during his visit to the Andamans discussed the point with the local authorities and if so, the purport and results of this discussion are not known. But there is no doubt that he was confirmed in the views he expressed in his note of 24. 9. 13. Thus he says in the preface to his note dated 19. 12. 13.

—"The policy I advocate is the confinement of these convicts singly in different Indian Jails to be carefully selected, while the life convicts will continue in the Cellular Jail and if well behaved can be relegated to simple imprisonment after they have done 14 years.

He (Craddock) has elaborated his views in the following extract of the note dated

23. 11. 13. If a decision is come to on these lines, the number of prisoners to be transferred to Indian Jails will be as follows :—

(1) Bibhuti Bhusan Sarkar, Alipur Bomb Case (10 yrs), (2) Hrishikesh Kanjilal, Alipur Bomb Case (10 yrs), (3) Sudhir Kumar Sarkar, Alipur Bomb Case (7 yrs), (4) Abinash Bhattacherjya, Alipur Bomb Case (7 yrs), (5) Birendra Sen, Alipur Bomb Case (7 yrs), (6) Abani Chakraborty, Khulna Gang Case (7 yrs), (7) Bidhu Bhusan Dey, Khulna Gang Case (7 yrs), (8) Sachindralal Mitra, Khulna Gang Case, (7 yrs), (9) Aswani Kumar Bose, Khulna Gang Case, (7 yrs), (10) Nagendra Chandra, Khulna Gang Case (7 yrs), (11) Sudhir Kumar De, Khulna Gang Case (5 yrs), (12) Nani Gopal Mukherjee, Dalhousie Square Bomb Case (15 yrs), (13) Pulin Behari Das, Dacca Conspiracy Case (7 yrs), (14) Jyotirmoy Roy, Dacca Conspiracy Case (6 yrs), (15) Ram Hari Swarajya, (7 yrs), (16) Nanda Gopal Swarajya, (10 yrs), (17) Ladha Ram, Swarajya, (10 yrs), (18) Hotilal Varma, Swarajya, (10 yrs), (19) Ram Charan Lal, Jugantar (10 yrs).

The following life convicts will have to continue and finish their term in Port Blair until furtherorders :

(1) Barindra Kumar Ghosh, Alipur Bomb Case, (2) Hem Chandra Das, Alipur Bomb Case, (3) Upendra Nath Banerjee, Alipur Bomb Case, (4) Suresh Chandra Sen, Rajendrapur Train Dacoity, (5) Vinayak Damodar Savarkar, Nasik Conspiracy Case, (6) Ganesh Damodar Savarkar, Nasik Conspiracy Case, (7) Woman alias Deji, Nasik Conspriacy Case.

Sd/-R. H. Craddook,
S. S. Maharaja, 23. 11. 1913.

The first batch of prisoners from the Andamans reached Calcutta before the end of May, 1914. The repatriation was completed by the middle of September 1914.

The revolutionaries launched upon their big enterprise of a simultaneous rising in different parts of India with the help of Indian Troops. Most elaborate preparations were made in Bengal and the Punjab. Unfortunately the German arms did not reach India and the date of the general rising all over India was communicated to the Government by a police informer. So a large number of conspirators were arrested and tried by Special Tribunals under the Defence of India Act. As a result of the Lahore Conspiracy Case alone 28 persons were hanged and quite a large number transported to the Andamans. The Government thus revised the policy adopted in 1914 and sent also other groups of prisoners convicted in Bengal and other provinces for political dacoities etc. Among others transported to the Andamans were soldiers who refused to go to Rangoon, Singapore, Basra and other fronts. There were also soldiers who tried to spread sedition in the Army in Rangoon in order to organise a rebellion. There were also members of revolutionary conspiracies and later, some convicts in the Martial Law Cases from Gujarat (Ahmedabad). Most of these were sentenced to long terms of imprisonment and the total number of the prisoners in the Cellular Jail rose to about one hundred and fifty.

An interesting account of the prison life in Cellular Jail during the period from 1916 to 1920 is given by one Trailokya Nath Chakraborty, generally known as *Maharaj*, a redoubtable revolutionary leader. He was in the Andamans from 1916 to 1921 and the account given by him does not materially

differ from what has been stated above. The brutality with which the political prisoners were made to do hard work, particularly in oil mill, resulting in individual suicide, insanity and mass strike followed by harsher treatment and penalty on an ever increasing scale—all these were repeated during this period also.

Here again the same scene of taking away the sacred thread was enacted, but with tragic results. Pandit Ramraksha, Convicted in the Burmah Conspiracy Case, was a Hindusthani Brahmin and protested against the removal of his sacred thread my resorting to hunger strike. He starved himself three months till he died.

According to Chackraborty's information, based on official reports, on an average three prisoners in the Cellular Jail committed suicide every month. This was simply because of the brutal treatment meted out to the prisoners.

The political prisoners like their predecessors, decided to remedy this state of things by open defiance.

There was a regular campaign of civil disobedience in the Cellular Jail. The following is a summary of account given by Chakraborty :

"One day Bhan Singh was so mercilessly beaten that we feared he would die. In consequence about seventy of us declared a general strike—we would do no work and those amongst us who were able, would take no food. Each of us was penalised with bar-fetters for 6 months, solitary cell for 6 months and standing handcuffed with short rations for a week.

But the strike continued and penality followed penality.

In the meantime some prisoners from the Punjab and Ahmedabad, convicted in the Martial Law Case, came to the Cellular Jail. They were allotted oil-mill grinding, which they refused in pursuance of the policy of *Satyagraha*.

The Jailor had exhausted the armoury of penalties and punishments which had ceased to be terrors to the prisoners and had been accustomed to meet with defiant spirits. Bhan Singh, mentioned above, died in the hospital. The news of the death of Bhan Singh and Ramraksha, mentioned above, and of the strike of the political prisoners in the Cellular Jail were published in the Bengalee of Calcutta and its Editor Surendra Nath Banerjee asked many questions in the Council about the state of affairs in that jail.

After describing how on orders of Barriers five of his under-lings entered the room of Bhan Singh with big sticks, felled him on the ground and belaboured him. Savarkar continues : "Barriers cast all the blame on Bhan Singh and added that he had bitten him."

...Savarkar, who had already experience of three strikes before in the Cellular Jail, observes : "About a hundred prisoners had joined the strike. Such a large number had never before organised such a strike. Never in the long history of the Andamans had a strike on such a scale been organised or had lasted for such a long time."

The strike, however, went on Savarkar says that he advised them all "to go back on light work and end the strike." After a great deal of discussion they listened to the advice and ended the strike.

The authorities also made concessions. Savakar writes : "Except our demand for equal rights with political prisoners in England, the Indian Government agreed to grant us all the demands in the Statement submitted by us before going on strike. We

secured the right to send long letters home, we secured the right of sweet water for bathing ; of soap and oil for the Sikhs ; of better food for prisoners ; and last, of light work as our daily routine".

But little did the prisoners know at that time that the end of their miseries were in sight. In view of the prolonged troubles in the Cellular Jail the Government transferred the Superintendent and the Jailor. Their successors treated the prisoners more leniently and gave desk work to political prisoners. So peace was restored for the time being.

In the meantime two important and unforseen events brought about important changes in the history of the penal settlement of the Andamans. The first was the historic declaration of the new British policy towards India. On August 20, 1917, followed by the Report on the Indian Constitutional Reforms by 'Montague and Chelmsford (1918) the Jails Committee in Port Blair (1919-20) was inspired by the new political outlook. In the meantime as the first step to facilitate the working of the new Reforms a general amnesty as declared and the Government announced its decision to let off the political prisoners in the Andamans.

It was a red letter day in the Cellular Jail in the Andamans. Most of the political, incldng revolutionary, convicts from Bengal, Punjab, Gujrat and other provinces were released including Barin Ghosh, Trailokya Chakraborty and Paramanand but excluding Savakar and his brother among those mentioned above. The Savarkar brothers were released by the year 1921 and curtain fell upon the end of the First Act in the tragic drama of the Andamans.

Swarajya
The Newspaper that Inspired Freedom Movements in U. P.*

Bishambhar Nath Pande
(Former Mayor Allahabad)

The 'Swarajya', an Urdu weekly published from Allahabad, added a glorious chapter to the history of journalism in India. In its brief life-span of two and a half years (1907-1910), all its editors, one after the other, were prosecuted and sentenced to long terms of imprisonment. In its total of 75 published issues is woven a fascinating revolutionary romance, unsurpassed in the annals of Indian journalism.

"The birth as well as its martyrdon is a proud heritage of the Indian Freedom Movement in the state of U. P. At the instance of Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, I had the privilege of appearing as a defence counsel on behalf of all its editors,"—thus wrote Rajarishi Purushottam Das Tandon in his message to the All-India Newspaper Editors' Conference, held at Allahabad.

The *founder-editor* of the 'Swarajya', Raizada Shanti Narain Bhatnagar, came from Shamli, in the Muzaffarnagar district of the United Provinces. He was born in Simla in the year 1874 and was educated at Lahore. Like his father, he also joined the army service and soon occupied the position of a Camp-Clerk to the Military Secretary.

When I met Shri Shanti Narain in 1958 he had already completed 84 years of his eventful life. His venerable personality, his tall, slim and erect figure and his flowing white beard was very impressive. I could feel in his countenance the touch of his old burning zeal.

We soon entered into an amiable conversation. He got into a reminiscent mood and narrated the circumstances which inspired him in the dynamic venture of bringing out 'Swarajya'. He talked of his old army days: "In 1903, I was transferred to Calcutta. The British Officers, there, used to treat Indian personnel like dogs. Off and on they hurled insults at Indians. The scenes infuriated me. One day a Junior British Officer insulted me with his pet remark: "You bloody nigger". The humiliation inflamed me, I gave him a good thrashing until he apologised. After this incident I always kept a small baton in my hand and my resignation in my pocket."

Shri Shanti Narain continued: 'I was a regular reader of the 'Amrita Bazar Patrika'. Its defence of Indian nationalism filled me with pride. The inspiration made me so bold as to induce me to attend the memorable Calcutta Congress Session of 1906. My army service did not matter with me. I got an opportunity of meeting Lokmanya Tilak and later on Babu Motilal Ghosh, the editor of the 'Amrita Bazar Patrika'. My interview with these two leaders inspired me so much so

* Reproduced from **Frontier Mail**, September 8, 1968.

that in January 1907, I tendered my resignation from the army service. On the advice of Shri Motilal Ghosh I decided to bring out a vernacular newspaper to fight against the slavery of my country. The questions of finance was solved by my wife who placed at my disposal all her ornaments and jewellery, the sale of which brought me enough money to fulfill my ambition."

Calcutta, Poona and Lahore were the three strongholds of revolutionary awakening in the country. Patriots from U. P. had already made Lahore the center of their political activities. Under the inspiring guidance of Lala Lajpat Rai, the well-known mystic revolutionary, Sufi Amba Prasad, whose native place was Moradabad, founded a society called 'Bharat Mata Society' or '*Anjuman Muhibbane Vatan*'. Sardar Ajit Singh, his brothers Sardar Kishan Singh and Sardar Swaran Singh, Lala Anand Kishore Mehta, Lala Pindi Das, Lala Kedar nath Saigal, Babu Ishwari Prasad, Lala Lal Chand 'Falak', Maulvi Ziaul Huq of Hapur, Lala Hardayal, Lala Shyam Das Varma, Pandit Ram Chandra Peshawari and Pandit Pyari Lal Sharma of Meerut (afterwards Education Minister of U. P. in 1937) and many other youngmen from U. P. had already joined the Society. Shri Shanti Narain became the latest addition to the Society.

Sufi Amba Prasad was then, also serving as a special correspondent of the 'Amrita Bazar Patrika'. His criticism of the high handed policy of the Commissioner of the Ambala Division made his despatches spicy and effective. His sarcasm and racy style was liked by all. The Commissioner became an object of ridicule as most of his confidential orders found their way into the columns of 'Amrita Bazar Patrika'. Poor Commissioner did not know that hisrecently engaged deaf and dumb bearer was no other than Sufi Amba Prasad.

The U. P. group of Bharat Mata Society was feeling desperate in the absence of revolutionary political activities in U. P. The Province, which was the standard-bearer of the revolt of 1857, was lying prostrate during Swadeshi Movement. When Shanti Narain arrived at Lahore, he was unanimously advised to bring out his paper 'Swarajya' from Allahabad which was then *de jure* as well as *de facto* capital of U. P.

Shanti Narain visited almost all the important cities of U. P. distributing handbills and affixing wall posters announcing the publication of 'Swarajya' from Deepavali *i. e. from 9th November* 1907.

Shanti Narain arrived in Allahabad in August 1907. A litho press and office for the Swarajya was set up *at Johnstonganj*. The first issue of 'Swarajya' was published as scheduled under the editorship of Shanti Narain.

In no time the 'Swarajya' became the torch bearer of revolutionary awakening in U. P. Its circulation increased in leaps and bounds. In a few months it became very popular with the readers not only in U. P. but throughout North India.

Lokmanya Tilak in his message to the editor said: "May 'Swarajya' help in the brith of freedom movement in the United Provinces."

The message from Shri Motilal Ghosh contained these prophetic words: "May 'Swarajya' prove an active champion in the cause of political advancement of the country. But in so doing be prepared to keep your one foot ni jail and your successor ready to take your place."

Hardly four months had passed when Shri Shanti Narain realized the prophetic

significance of the message of Shri Motilal Ghosh.

A panegyric on the martyrdom of Khudi Ram Bose provided the occasion. The mother of martyr Khudi Ram, crying over the dead body of his son, says :

You gave your life on the gallows.
With smiles on your lips !
Did I bring you up for this day !

Then addressing the youth of the country the poet says :

Give up fear even if it costs your life !
God helps those who love their mother-land !

Shri Shanti Narain was arrested for publishing this poem. He was prosecuted under section 124 A of IPC in the court of Mr. MacNaire, the District Magistrate of Allahabad. Shri Purushottam Das Tandon appeared as a defence counsel. The accused in his statement to the court said : "I did what I think best for my country and you may do what you think best for your country."

Shri Shanti Narain was sentenced to three and a half years rigorous imprisonment and Rs. 1,000/- fine, in default of its non-payment, he was to undergo 6 months further imprisonment.

Shri Shanti Narain was succeeded by Shri Ram Das Suralia from Amritsar (afterwards Swami Prakashanand Saraswati, the well-known exponent of Vedanta Philosophy). He had hardly brought out a couple of issues of the 'Swarajya' when in lieu of fine imposed on Shanti Narain, the 'Swarajya' press was attached and auctioned. The warrants of arrest against Suralia were issued but he went underground to arrange funds for a new printing press.

When the new printing press was installed, Shri Hotilal Varma of Haryana, who had just returned from England and was staying at Aligarh, took over the editing of the 'Swarajya'. After he had brought out a few issues, Shri Hoti Lal Verma was also arrested under Section 124A and sentenced to a total of 10 years transportation on two counts.

Shri Babu Ram Hari, a young patriot from Qadian, in the district of Gurdaspur, succeeded Shri Hotilal Varma. He took over the responsibility of 'Swarajya' on his young shoulders. The first number of 'Swarajya' under his editorship was dedicated to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Indian War of Independence. The same number carried the following poem by Shri Babu Ram Hari :

Oh ! My dear Motherland why are you crying ?
The rule of the foreigners is about to end !
They are packing up !
The national shame and misfortune,
Will not last long !
The wind of freedom has begun to blow,
Old and young all are yearning for freedom !
When India becomes free,
'Hari' will also enjoy his freedom !

Shri Babu Ram Hari could edit only II issues of the 'Swarajya'. The cycle of repression took its turn and Shri Hari was arrested for writing three seditious editorials. He was produced before the Sessions Judge, who sentenced him to transportation to an aggregate term of 21 years on the different counts.

Shri Munshi Ram sewak, editor, 'Sahaik of Lahore, rushed to occupy the vacant gaddi of 'Swarajya'. He arrived by the first available train from Lahore, but he did not know that a police officer of the Panjab Government was also travelling by the same train to Allahabad with an arrest warrant for him for publishing a seditious article in his Urdu weekly 'The Sahaik'. The officer had

come all the way from Lahore to Allahabad for this purpose.

While Shri Munshi Ram 'Sewak' was filling a declaration before the District Magistrate of Allahabad, he was arrested and the same evening taken to Lahore. The District Magistrate, Mr. Mac Naire sarcastically remarked : "Who is the next man to occupy this Moghul throne ?" Although he was thus deprived of a chance of pilgrimage of 7 or 10 years in the Andamans through 'Swarajya', he was convicted by the Sessions Judge, Lahore and sentenced to 7 years rigorous imprisonment.

Shri Nand Gopal Chopra, editor, weekly 'Inquilab', Lahore, the patriotic son of Shri Bulaki Ram, Bar-at Law, the founder of freedom movement in Dehra Dun, had already been sentenced to five years hard labour at Lahore for his seditious writings. His appeal was pending and he was enlarged on bail. He offered his service to 'Swarajya'.

Shri Nand Gopal arrived at Allahabad and filed the declaration. The publication of the 'Swarajya', was again resumed. He could manage to edit nearly a dozen issues of the newspaper prior to his rearrest. Shri Nand Gopal was sentenced to transportation, on three different counts to an aggregate term of 30 years.

After the conviction of Shri Nand Gopal Chopra, Shri Sham Das Varma, editor of 'Bharat Mata', official organ of the Bharat Mata Society of Lahore, assumed the editorial responsibilities of the 'Swarajya'. He had hardly taken out two issues when he received urgent summons to return to Lahore to cope with the situation arising out of Sufi Amba Prasad and Sardar Ajit Singh having absconded to Persia. He was succeeded by a young patriot, Shri Ladha Ram Kapur who hailed from his village Varaichanwala, district Gujarat.

There was no less than a dozen aspirants to claim the honour, which ultimately went to Shri Ladha Ram Kapur, a young man who had just returned from South East Asia, after amassing a little fortune, When the family was looking forward for a future of case and comforts, destiny took a different course. While Suralia, Hotilal, Babu Ram Hari and Nand Gopal were bachelors with no encumberances, Ladha Ram was a family man. He was warned of the consequences but nothjng would deter hlm. "How can I refuse the call of freedom ?" he replied to one of his elders. To his wife he said, "I love you with all my heart ; but my love for my country has no equal."

A tearful village congregation of Varaichanwala in the district of Gujarat in Punjab, gave young Ladha Ram Kapur the same heart rending farewell as was given by the citizens of Ayodhya to the forest-going Shri Rama. But while the duration of Rama's Vanvas was only of 14 years, Ladha Ram was sentenced to an aggregate term of 30 years to be spent in a hellish Andaman cell. Shri Ladha Ram was prosecuted for three offending articles : (i) Loyalty (Wafadari), (ii) Political Ode (Mushaira), and (iii) Spring and Us (Bahar Aur Ham), And what was in these articles which warranted such brutal punishment ? Here are some excerpts from the judgement of the Sessions Judge of Allahabad dated 26th May, 1910.

"The first article refers to a rape case in which an Englishman was prosecuted in a court at Rawalpindi on the charge of forcibly violating the chastity of an Indian woman. The offending article says that 'morally speaking she was a sister of all of us. This Englishman, in a most cowardly manner,

destroyed the chastity of a respectable woman. And being an Englishman may come to the conclusion that they will not be punished if they violate the chastity of our mothers, wives or sisters.' "

The judgement says : "I do not see what strongest language could be used by the writer for bringing into hatred or contempt or for exciting disaffection towards the Government established by law in British India. In my opinion this article is clearly seditious and undoubtedly transgresses the law as laid down in section 124A of th Indian Penal Code."

In the article 'Political Ode' the writer insinuates that British Government is 'a calamity that has befallen India'. The youths of India are exhorted to 'remove her troubles even at the cost of their lives', These sentiments are certainly seditious and would excite disaffection towards the Government established by Law in British India.

"The article 'Spring and us' compares India to a beautiful garden in which the 'cruel gardener' that is, the Government established by law in British India, is practising all sorts of unworthy tyranny. The Government has been characterised as a 'tyrant' and also as 'white ants' who are devouring the roots of our garden plants.

" this article too undoubtedly transgresses the law as laid down in section 124A of the Indian Penal Code."

The judge in his concluding remarks says : "The only question then left out for this court's consideration is the amount of punishment it should impose on the accused. This is the fourth time that a fourth editor of the 'Swarajya' has been arraigned before this court in Allahabad for sedition under section 124A of the Indian Penal Code. The last case, that of the previous editor Nand Gopal, was decided by me only as late as March 29, 1910. The case of Babu Ram Hari was also tried by me. For reasons given in my judgment of 10th December 1908, I sentenced Babu Ram Hari to transportation for seven years on each one of the three counts under section 124A of the IPC, Nand Gopal was then sentenced by this court to three terms of transportation for ten years for the three seditious articles written by him. These severe sentences on successive editors of 'Swarajya' has not deterred this present accused Ladha Ram from coming from his district Gujarat in the Punjab and continuing the same vile stream of sedition by making foul aspersions against Government. On a consideration of all the circumstances of this case, this court finds the accused, Ladha Ram, guilty on all three counts of three offences punishable under section 124A of the IPC and sentence him to transportion for ten years for each one of the three offences."

The well-known revolutionary, Pandit Parmanand, who was also in the Cellular Jail of Andamans, informed the writer of this article that Shri Ladha Ram was subjected to inhuman torture during the course of incarceration in the Andamans. He was tried for breaking prison regulations and sentenced to six months further term of inprisonment. His rare bravery and courage soon earned for him the title of "field-Marshal" from his comrades in prison.

'Field-Marshal' Ladha Ram breathed his last on the 5th of January, 1965 in a forlorn colony of New Delhi, in extreme poverty without medicine and without a hospital treatment, 'leaving his old widow behind him to mourn his loss. Our humble tributes to the memory of this brave son of Bharat Mata and the 'Field-Marshal of Andamans'.

Underterred by these ruthless sentences

many an aspirant applied for the editorship of 'Swarajya' which fell successively vacant for the eight time. A few amongst the aspirants were Shri Ramchandra Bharadwaj of Peshawar, Mahashe Khushal Chand 'Khursand' of Lahore and Pandit Amir Chand Bombwal, editor, 'Frontier Advocate', Peshawar. The mantle of Ladha Ram fell on the shoulders of Pandit Amir Chand Bombwal. A little more than 57 years have elapsed, when on October 22, 1910 the 'Swarajya' was done to death by the infamous Press Act of 1910.

Pandit Amir Chand Bombwal was the last standard-bearer in the grim battle for saving 'Swarajya'. Before his arrest Shri Ladha Ram inserted an advertisement in his paper: "Wanted an editor for 'Swarajya' on a remuneration of two unbuttered chapatis, a glass of cold water and 10 years, rigorous imprisonment for each editorial."

Happily Pandit Bombwal is one of the two surviving editors of 'Swarajya'. The other is Shri Nand Gopal, who is also above 85 years of age and devotes his time in writing philosophical treatises. I had the good fortune of meeting Pandit Bombwal recently at Dehra Dun, on the 22nd February, 1968.

This active, sturdy and hefty Pathan, in spite of his 82 years, still maintains his youth-fulness. He is an ardent supporter of Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan and hopes to shed the last drop of his blood when a call for a fight for Pakhtoonistan comes from him. For the last many years he is editing 'The Frontier Mail', an English paper from Dehra Dun.

After a cup of tea and an introduction to his family members, Pandit Bombwal narrated the closing chapter of the romantic story of 'Swarajya'. He began :

I was the last of the editors. A security of Rs. 2000/ was demanded along with the filing of a fresh declaration for 'Swarajya' From Lahore, I came to Delhi to meet Master Amirchand (afterwards martyr of the famous Delhi Bomb case). The 'Swarajya' had by then become the symbol of national honour. Master Amirchand collected Rs. 2,000 and gave them to me for the rssumption of its publication. Thus armed I arrived at Allahabad. I deposited the cash security and filled the declaration. The 'Swarajya' reappeared in September, 1910. This enraged the Lieut. Governor of U. P. He ordered that in future the security for good behaviour under Section 108 Cr. P. C. may also be demanded from the declarants simultaneously with the security from the printing press and the newspaper under the Press Act.

"Hardly four issues had appeared under my editorship when orders were issued forfeiting the deposit. When I was busy arranging the amount for a fresh security, they sought sanction for my prosecution on the basis of two articles published during my regime of editorship. But the District Magistrate was so eager to arrest me that he could not wait for the Government sanction for my prosecution and issued orders to bound me down for keeping good behaviour for one year under Sec. 1(8) Cr. P. C.

"Forewarned by awell-wisher, I went underground and took shelter in the house of my revolutionary friend, the editor of "Karmayogi", young Pandit Sundarlal. I thought that the police authorities in their wildest dreams, would never imagine that I could take refuge in a house which was haunted, day and night, by the CID. To me it was the safest place. I remained with him till Christmas of 1910.

"The editor of 'Karmayogi" Pandit Sundarlal was a very popular student leader of those days. Rather, it would be no exagger-

ation to say that he was the founder of the 'Student Movement' in India. During the short span of six months the ever growing popularity and prestige of 'Karmayogi' became a source of great irritation to the Government. A heavy security was demanded resulting in the closure of the 'Karmayogi'.

"I was arrested on the Christmas Day under dramatic circumstances. I went to see a grand exhibition where an aircraft was on display for the first time. Those who saw it came back with great praise for it. It was a temptation for me which I could hardly resist. Thus, on Christmas Day I found myself in the exhibition grounds. In the words of Tandonji, "We had never witnessed such an interesting exhibition before."

"While watching the aircraft, I was suddenly surrounded by the police and arrested. When produced before the District Magistrate, Rajarishi Purushottam Das Tandon was my defence counsel. He took advantage of a technical flaw in the arrest warrant. The Police Officer mistook me for Master Amirchand and naturally in the warrant of arrest. Masterji's parentage was given as mine. Tandonji argued: "How can you prosecute my client on a fictitious parentage ?"

Another of his objection was that the charge-sheet mentioned that the newspaper copies containing the offending articles were seized at the printing stage, prior to their publication. Tandonji argued: "Pre-publication stage does not come under the Act's purview."

The prosecution got confused and moved for a brief adjournment for the necessary amendments in the arrest warrant as well as in the charge-sheet. My handcuffs were removed and I became a free man for sometime.

Tandonji surreptitiously put a pad of currency notes in my pocket and confidentially advised me to catch a Benaras-bound train from Prayag station which was due to arrive there within half an hour. And by the time a fresh warrant was got ready, I was half way to Benaras.

Pandit Bombwal's story of arrest and prosecution was as interesting as his flight from the court-room. With Bombwal ended the glorious chapter of this immortal newspaper, whose brave editors received an aggregate terms of imprisonment of 125 years. Let me close this with a quotation from the Rowlatt Report, published in Government of India Gazette, dated 18. 1. 1919. The Report says.

"The United Provinces of Agra and Oudh are separated from Bengal by Bihar and Orissa and are geographically the heart of Upper India. They contain the cities of Benaras and Allahabad, sacred in the eyes of all Hindus. Agra was once the centre of the old Moghul Empire and Lucknow formerly the capital of a Muslim kingdom. They were the main battle-fields of 1857.

The first determined and persistent impulse towards a revolutionary movement in these now peaceful Provinces came from the establishment of the 'Swarajya' (Self-Government) newspaper in Allahabad in November, 1907 by a certain Shanti Narain a native of the U. P. who had formerly been sub-editor of a Punjab newspaper and desired to commemorate the release of Lajpat Rai and Ajit Singh, the Punjab deportees. The tone of this paper was hostile to the Government from the first and gradually intensified in essence. Finally, Shanti Narain was condemned to a long term of imprisonment for objectionable articles on the Muzaffarpur murders. The 'Swarajya', however, proceeded

on its way under eight successive editors, three of whom were prosecuted and sentenced to long terms of imprisonment for objectionable publication. Seven of these editors came from the Punjab. The paper was only suppressed when the new Indian Press Act of 1910 came into force. Of its offending articles one was a panegyric on Khudiram Bose, the Muzaffarpur murder', others related to such subjects as 'Bomb or Boycott'. 'Tyrant and Oppressor'. 'The Karmayogi', a paper of similar tendencies published late in 1909 at Allahabad, was also suppressed in 1910 under the new Indian Press Act.
(Amrita Bazar Patrika Centenary Supplement, March 1968)

The story of unparalleled sacrifices made by "Swarajya", the first revolutionary paper in the State of Uttar Pradesh, which was established in 1907, the golden jubilee year of the first war of India's independence of 1857, would not be complete, according to Pandit Benarasi Das Chaturvedi, without a reference to the glorious sacrifice of Pandit Ram Charan Lal Sharma, an admirer and honorary propagandist of 'Swarajya'. This young man hailed from the district of Etah. He used to roam about the city holding corner meetings where he read and explained articles appearing in the 'Swarajya'. Later on, he included the 'Yugantar' of Calcutta also in this programme. The authorities felt incensed and arrested him. He was tried on account of three different gatherings where he recited articles from "Swarajya" and sentenced to 10 years imprisonment on each count, i. e. 30 years in all and sent to the Andamans.

It is a matter of deep regret that after independence when the Government of India published the 'History of Indian Journalism', in 1955, the heroic and memorable exploits of this pioneer revolutionary paper were totally ignored. The only mention made of it was :

"The Urdu 'Swarajya' (1907) from Allahabad had a nationalist policy." —(Page 205).

What is still more painful is that after the country became free efforts to revive this paper which had been suppressed by the alien rulers, proved futile. It was not allowed to breathe in free India as the Government did not permit its publication.

As per the wishes of Shri Shanti Narain and Rajarishi Tandonji an effort was made to revive 'Swarajya' in free India but the Government expressed their inability to permit publication of a newspaper with this name. The copy of a letter dated November 27, 1959 from the Registrar of Newspapers 'for India addressed to Shri A. C. Bombwal 'Frontier Mail', House, 14 Mahatma Gandhi Road reproduced below :

"I am to refer to your letter dated 11. 9. 59 on the above subject and to say that you may kindly make application in this behalf to the District Magistrate, Dehra Dun. It may however, be mentioned that the title 'Swarajya' is not available for a newspaper to be published in Hindi.

Moplah Rebels in the Andamans

Chinmohon Sehanavis

The ancestors of the Moplahs or the Mappila Muslims of Malabar came from Arabia, married local women and settled down here 'almost certainly before the end of the seventh centurey'[1]. They cherish a long history of almost uninterrupted, desparate outbreaks against the British domination over their land which lasted from 1792 to 1947. Thus during the century preceeding the welknown Malabar Rebellion of 1921 there were as many as 51, and in the seventeen critical years of 1836-1853 alone 22 such outbreaks[2]. These varied from minor clashes in which a few people participated to major incidents involving a fairly large number of participants. These outbreaks of poverty-stricken Moplah peasants were spontaneous and directed against Government officials. both British and Indian, as well as against the *jenmis* or the landlords who were mostly Hindus. This often lent a communal colour to incidents which were basically agrarian in character and as the Moplahs were largely uneducated the hold of religious bigotry was neither strong among them.

The British were, at last, compelled by the recurrence of these clashes to appoint a Commission headed by a Magistrate—T. L. Strange. Unfortunately Strange's report published in 1852 made no effort to go deep into the real cause of the malady, except noting at one point that 'the land is with the Hindus' and that 'in the inland Taluk where land is so necessary in existence and the Moppila population is so large the pressure of the Moppila body on the Hindus is, necessarily, all the greater'. On the other hand strange recommendations resulted in further stringent measures against the Moplahs. It is to be noted here that even among the British officials there were some who, at that time, had challenged this approach to an extremely complicated problem. Thus collector, A. Macguregon was 'perfectly satisfied that the Moppila outrages are agrarian' and his successor, W. Logan (who alone had studied the Moplah problem thoroughly as Commissioner, Malabar Land Revenue, and published his monumental *Malabar Manual*) held that the uprisings were designed 'to counteract the overwhelming influence, when backed by the British Courts, of the *jenmis* in the exercise of the novel powers of ouster and of rent raising conferred upon them'. Logan in fact, 'challenged the very historical basis for the theory of *jenmis*' right, a view in which he was never supported by his superiors'[3].

The Government policy or repression against the Moplahs, therefore, continued unbated—perhaps with only slight relaxation for brief intervals and during the nineties of the last century 'some Moppilas were deported to Botany Bay, Australia, and the Andamans'[4].

1, 2, 3 and 4 Roland Miller—Moppila Muslims of Kerala—Orient Longman, 1976, p. 42, p. 109, pp. 116-17 and p. 114.

We do not, however, know anything about the Moplah rebels deported to the Andamans during that period.

Moplah Rebellion of 1921

Any way the Moplah Rebellion of 1921 was something very different from these earlier outbreaks. As the District Gazetter of Kazhikode (Kerala State), 1972, says :

> The Rebellion of 1921 was a gigantic popular upheaval the like of which has not been seen in Kerala before or since. It was unprecedented in its magnitude and extent. At its height the Rebellion covered more than 220 *Amsoms* that is, sub-districts—(C. S.) and large masses of people were involved in it.

Secondly, unlike the earlier outbreaks the Rebellion of 1921 broke out in the context of what has been described as the 'Second Great War of our National Struggle', that is the Non-Co-operation and Khilafat Movement of 1921. The Kozhikode District Gazetteer mentioned above says :

> "...In Malabar which has a sizeable Muslim population the Congress and the Khilafat movements coalesced into a single movement. Mahatma Gandhi and Saukat Ali visited Kerala to bring the message of Non-co-operation and Khilafat Movements to the local population, Khilafat Committees were formed to work in co-operation with the Congress Committees".

There was very soon a wide network of Khilafat Committee particularly in the Ernad and Valluvamad Taluks of Malabar which were the strongholds of the Moplah Community. Alarmed at the progress of the Khilafat Movement the Government promulgated Section 144 in these two Taluks. This was followed by an incident on August 20, 1921, which was indeed the starting point of the Rebellion. The course of events has been described in the Gazetter thus :

> The police attempted to arrest Vedakkoveettil Muhammad, the Secretary of the local Khilafat Committee, on the prextext that he had stolen a gun from the Pookothur Place of the Nilambar Tirumulpad. The police searched the house of Mohammad. Thousands of the Moppilas of the locality appeared on the scene armed with knives, swords and spears and thwarted the attempts of the police. In the meantime another police party under the leadership of Hitchcock (Superintendent of Police—C. S.) reached Ernad The party entered the mosque at Tirurangadi on the prextext of searching for Muhammad. This action of the police roused the religious feelings of the Moppilas and led to a series of violent outbursts. The Ernad and Valluvanad Taluks, which were the stronghold of the Moppilas, were ablaze with rebellion. The rebels attacked police stations, looted Government treasuries and entered the Courts and Registering Offices and destroyed records (this is significant—C. S.).

The Gazetter continues :

> The rebellion soon spread to neighbouring areas. Tirurangadi, Pookothur, Malappurum, Manjeri, Perithalamanna, Pandikkat, Tirur etc. became the storm-centres of the Rebellion. Three of the principal leaders of the Rebellion were Valiakummati Kunjahammed Haji, Seethi Koya Thangal of Kummaranapathor and Ali Muoohliar. An official history of the Kerala Congress states that upto August 28, 1921, British administration had virtually come to an end in Malappurum, Tirurangadi Majeri and Perinthalmanna.

Sri K. P. Kesara Menon, the wellknown Editor of *Mathurbhuml* and acting Secretary

at that time of the Kerala Provincial Congress Committee thus recalls his experience of these days, after the proclamation of Marital Law in Ernad, Calicut and other neighbouring regions but before the military had actually forced their way into the area controlled by the rebles :

...We sent back the carriages to Calicut and started for Tirurangadi on foot. V. Gopala Menon, K. V. Gopala Menon, Moidu Moulavi and K. Madhava Menon were some of those who were with us then. We sent word to Ali Musaliar who was the unquestioned leader of the rebels about our visit. By the time we reached Mampurath ferry about 200 volunteers were there to receive us with boats. They were fully armed. Kunhalavi was the head of the army and Larakutty was the minister of Ali Musaliar. They conducted us to the Khilafat office. I asked my friends to stay behind. I went up with Moidu Moulavi and Gopala Menon and awaited the arrival of Ali Musaliar whose headquarters was the Tirurangadi Mosque. A few minutes later Ali Musaliar arrived. He embraced me and sat by wayside for a few minutes without saying anything. Then he gave me a full account of the happenings. After listening to him for a few minutes I asked him what he proposed to do in future. He asked for my advice. I told him frankly that it would be better for the more prominent rebel leaders to surrender to the military to save Tirurangadi from disaster. He was unable to make a decision. He asked me to consult Lavakutty and Kumhalavi. It was getting dark. Friends who were waiting downstairs were getting uneasy. I bade farewell to Ali Musaliar. When I left him I had a talk with Lavakutty and Kumhalavi. Kumhalavi was a strong and sturdy man with a sword in one hand and another hanging from his shoulder. He had several cuts on his body. He plainly told me that he would never surrender to the military and that he would rather die fighting like a man. And that was what happened subsequently.[5]

Roland Miller also says that although British forces held the key towns almost throughout the Rebellion, during the first three months Moppilas ruled the countryside.

By the middle of October, 1921, a new form of Martial Law severer than in the earlier months was introduced and the really brutal phase of repression began. The most shocking of the cruelties, of course, was the 'train tragedy' of November 19, 1921. One hundred and twenty two Moplah prisoners were loaded into a wagon at the point of a bayonet on that day at Tirur and when the sealed wagon was at last opened at Coimbatore, ninety miles away, sixtyfour of the prisoners were dead. And the so-called Enquiry Committee headed by our involved official exonerated the police, only mildly reprimanding the Sergeant-In-Charge.

Miller writes :

"The Moppila Rebellion began on August 20, 1921, and continued at our intensive level for six months. Thereafter a further period of six months was required before peace was finally established. The Rebellion was largely confined to South Malabar, and

5. 1921 Movement : Reminiscences, Publications Division, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting Government of India, p. 160.

within it to half of its area covering 220 *Amsons* in Ernad, Wallavand, and parts of the Calicut and Pomanani Taluks. But it directly involved over one million people and indirectly touched the lives of many more in Kerala".[6]

According to K. P. Kesava Menon who had intimate knowledge of the people connected with this upheaval about ten thousand people lost their lives including many British Officers as a result of this Rebellion. His firm view is that the chief cause of the rebellion was the excessive violence used by the authorities to suppress the Khilafat movement and prohibiting leaders of the Congress and Khilafat movements to even address the crucial Moplah meetings. 'When police atrocities became unbearable they gave up the vow of non-violence and decided to meet violence with violence.'

Hindus were involved during the first stage of the Rebellion, specially in the Wallavanad Taluk and the first list of fortysix prosecuted rebels included one Namboodiri, one Menon and one Nayar and Leaders like M. P. Narayana Menon, K. Madharam Navi, K. Kalappan, E. Moidu Maulavi, Muhammad Abdur Rahaman and Hassan Kaya.

Molla tried their best to check the violent turn of events as disciplined members of the Congress and the Khilafat Committee. Congressmen too were arrested and sentenced along with the Moplahs. The Kozhikodi District Gazetteer writes :

> ...The case of Narayana Menon stands out among them. He had done much to organise Congress work in Malabar and was the Secretary of the Ernad Taluk Congress Committee at the time of the Rebellion. When the lives of Englishmen were in danger he had used his influence with the Moppilas and saved them. By a strange irony of fate Narayan Menon was later accused of treason and sentenced to 14 years rigorous imprisonment by a military court.

To this Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramyya adds :

> He could have been released earlier if he had only given an oral undertaking that he would not enter Walvanad Taluk for three years but be would not and therefore served his full terms heroically and voluntarily. At a latter stage of the Rebellion the Kozhikode District Gazetteer remarks :
>
> ...the action of the police in enlisting the support of Hindu landlords and their men in their search for the rebel leaders made certain sections of the Mappila Community turn against the Hindus. Some of the fanatics among the Mappila took advantage of the situation to resort to forcible conversion and looting of Hindus. The Government took full advantage to give currency to highly exaggerated versions of anti-Hindu excesses committe by the Moppila rebels. A resolution passed by the Congress Working Committee in September, 1921, while placing on record "its sense of deep regret over the deeds of violence done by the Moppila in certain areas of Malabar" and condemning "the needless destruction of life resorted to by the Government" warned the public against believing in the Government inspired versions. On the question of forcible conversion the Resolution said that they were forced upon the Hindus by a fanatic gang which was always opposed to the Khilafat and Non-co-operation movement....

6. Miller, op. cit., p. 124.

Even so there is no doubt that this was a weakness of the movement ; there full advantage was taken by the Government to suppress it. Nevertheless this alone cannot take away the glory of tne Rebellion which was mainly directed agalnst the British by Mopalhs impelled by their grinding poverty and age-long exploitation.

Moplah rebels in the Andamans

We do not know yet exactly how many Moplah rebels had been sent to the Andamans. Those of them who settled down there after serving their term BELIEVE that at least three thousand of them had been deported to these island. This is not unlikely. For there is now quite a Moplah population in the South Andaman villages of Calicut, Malapuram (mark the names of towns or villages belonging to the mainland), Ogrbranj, Wright Myo, Mannerghat, Stewartgunj, Womberlygunj, Babooflat etc. whose number is said to be around six thousand. This, of course, includes the families of the rebels and other Moplahs who came later and settled down here.

Even in the Andamans the Moplah rebels continued their struggle while they were engaged in reclaiming a part of the present Gymkhana Ground in Port Blair. They protested against ill treatment meted out to them and beat up the officials. The police could not control them and the military had to come and keep them round them up on an isolated barrack. Ultimately good sense prevailed and facilities were provided to the rebels to bring families over from the mainland and settle down there.

Twentyone Moplah rebels are still alive who after serving their terms have settled down in the Andamans. When I had an occasion to visit the Islands during the last week of February, in 1975, (as a member of a group of pilgrims sent on the initiative of the Ex-Andaman Political Prisoners' Fraternity Circle) I met ten of them whose names are as follows ; Marakkar, Pooyikuman

(1) Changath Attam
(2) Kuthukallam Kunjara
(3) Pokat Koyamu
(4) Mathummal Markkar
(5) Pathampeedikayil Kunjikader Molla
(6) Chakkurpeerakkal Kutty Hassan
(7) Aripa Pocker
(8) Poovakundil Alavi
(9) Kozhisseri Koya Kutty
(10) Poolakuyyil Kunhi Moideen Kutty.

During my short stay of five days only in the Andamans I could not meet the other eleven whose names are as follows :

1. Nelliparamban Alavi Haji
2. Kolaparamban Kunjalavi
3. Ambattuparamban Saidalippa
4. Koyakkatiparambil Kunjani
5. Machingal Rayin
6. Variyath Valappil Ahammed Kutty
7. Muthummal Ahmmed Kutty
8. Pooyikkunnam Marakkar
9. Machincheri Alavi
10. Mukri Kunjayammu
11. Neehiyil Kunjeedn.

I have also been able to get two photographs of all the twentyone living Moplah rebels (14 in one group and 7 in another) and the following account of thirteen of them through the kind help of my friend Sri C. Abdulla who is an officer at Port Blair. Out of the ten Moplah rebels I had met my interview with eight have also been taped. They all talked about the Khilafat Movement and mentioned Gandhiji and Saukat as their great leaders and all were sorry for the communal turn in the movement during the last stage for which they universally blamed the British.

The Rumpa Revolt—1922-24

Satyabrota Chakravarty

The Rumpa Revolt of 1922-24 was a glorious epoch in the history of India's struggle for freedom. The indomitable courage and glowing sacrifice of these peasant freedom fighters had a great impact on the nation's life.

The Rumpa peasants had risen into revolt once before. During 1878-79 they struck a heavy blow to the British rule. The rebellion did spread over an area of 100 miles jn the Godavari district (under Madras presidency at that time).

The South of India fell in the grip of a terrible famine in the Eighteen Sixtles. This famine could be compared with the great Bengal famine of 1176 (Bengali calendar). Those who had escaped the great famine faced anofher danger now, Land revenue was raised by fifty percent, preventive laws against the use of the forest products were enacted, taxes were imposed on the collection of timbers from the forests. All these measures hit the main source of living of the Rumpa peasants. All these were done by the British Government to raise extra revenue to prosecute the Afgan war.

The peasants rebelled against these measures. They held a meeting and elected Chandria Sardar (one amongst them) as their leader. Lingam Reddi, Jaman Dhora and many others assisted the leadership. Mainly with bows and arrows and a few outmodded guns the peasants attacked the local British administration. In many place Government administration broke down and the Rumpa peasants enforced their own rule in these areas.

When it became impossible to quell this revolt with the police force, the British Government brought in the regular army. These mercenaries swooped upon the peasants and created a reign of terror. Mass scale arrests, arson, loot. murder and open inhuman cruelties were inflicted on the people of the liberated areas.

In January, 1880 Chandrra died. Nothing could defintely be established about the antecedent of his sudden death. However, it was surmised that he has been arrested and shot to death by some British army officer. The Rumpa Revolt of 1878-79 came to an end shortly after the happening.

After en interval of forty-four years, the Rumpa peasants revolted again in the years 1922-24. Those who are acquainted with the peasant movements of cotemporary times may find it interesting to note that the inhabitants of the same areas have become the well-known 'Girijans' of today. This revolt was very prominent in the Western Godavari and Vishakha-pattanam districts. these two are parts of today's Andhra Pradesh.

The later Rumpa Revolt (1922-24) had a different background. During the after war economic depression (World War I, 1914-18) the major portfon of liabilities were thrust upon the Indians by the British Govrnment. The promises with which the British power had lured the subjects of their Raj to submit

to the recruitment were all flukes. The Indians felt betrayed at this and broke into a violent protest. The British rule was too proud to stand this and at Jalianwalabag of Amritsar, the unarmnd and non-interfering visitors to the 'Basakhi' congregetion were brutally murdered in hundreds on the pretext of breaking the martial law.

The fuming discontent drove itself gradually to the National Movement of 1921 (Non-Co-opcration). The national awareness, associated with the upheaval, agitated the Indian conscience and stirred the Rumpa sentiments in a considerable measure, as was evident from their way of actions in the begining.

The great leader of the Rumpa revolt of 1922-24 was Alluri Sitarama Raju. Sitarama Raju was not a name only. Raju was the symbol of courage, self sacrifice and resistance against the foreign domination. He was an ascetic and iater became the apostle of the Revolution. The strnggle which developed under his guidance in the interest of the suffering people of the agency area of Andhra aimed at the complete abolition of the British rule. He did not fancy that the struggle organifed by him would free the country frnm the foreign rule bur he was sure that not before long the single sparK that he would Kindle would develop into a prairie fire throughout the country.

Aliuri Sitarama Raju was a 'Sadhu' in the Paidi Patta village of Vishakhapattanam district. People used to love and respect him. But he was not happy. There was a turbulent storm accumlaring in his mind as he has been viewing the tyranny practised upon the common people.

Raju took an oath that he would free the people from the prolonged humiliation inflicted on them by the British power and their lackeys. These government bureaucrats were always in one mind to grab the property of the poor peasants, a few domesticated animals or sacks of crops, whatever it might be.

There was no punishment for these nefarious activities ; instead of making protests people used to keep mum in fear. What with poverty and what with hunger lives of people bccame unbearable. Men had to suffer helplessly and watch women's modesty being outraged in their presence.

Raju started making reproachul appeals as a protest to the crimes. But they produced effects, contrary to expectation. Instead of going through the complaints and deciding on penalisation of the culprits. the Government, bureacracy started suspecting Raju. He was very closely shadowed by the administration.

Having failed to rouse the Government's sense of justice by mere appeals Raju took to arms. He coliectedd a number of followers. They were all illiterate, working people of the peasant families of the villages. Raju explained and impressed on the people that the British imperialists and their lackeys were the root cause of their miseries and humiliation. There might be an end of this suffering only with the end of their rules. With a programme of raiding the police stations, Raju started his anti-British struggle. Normally he used to announce his plans and programmes earlier.

On June 22, 1922, Raju attacked Chintapally police station' with three hundred peasants. six outmoded guns, spears, bows and arrows the only weapons. Three sepoys who refused to surrender were tied to the posts' and the peasant liberators left the spot with cries of victory. They took along with

them 1390 cartidges, five swords and fourteen bayonets.

This was the start. Many more police stations were attacked namely, Krishnaderipet Rajubhumnangi, Angatingal. More guns, cartridges and swords were collected. Hundreds of village youths middle-aged and even aged people joined the liberating forces under Raju's leadership. Soon their number crossed a thousand. The government declared rewards on the heads of many peasant fighters and a reward of fifteen thousand rupees on Raju's head.

Raju's support and strength were the working people of the village; from their struggle for survival they knew that land was more important than money. They used to protect Raju with all the cares. Raju's peasant forces had many commendable traits. They took almost nothing from the villagers as food. A major portion of their necessities they used to collect by ransacking the Government grain storages and snatching the provision that used to be sent to the village for the maintenance of the sepoy posted there. Raju proclaimed strict regulations forbidding the use of all sorts of intoxicants.

Another important feature of Raju's forces was their mobility. They never used to stay in one place for more than a day or two. Mobility and sudden attack were the main strategy of Raju's peasant army. With burning idealism and firm determination this force faced encounters with the army and reserve forces led by British Officers.

On September 23, 1922, Raju's peasant forces made a lightning attack on the army under Treimenheir and Bestowan at Gujarighat and routed them completely. The pesant fighters won the laurels. Later encounters were more spirited, accompanied with better strategy. It was in the narrow tracks of Daman Pallighat and on the reserve forces led by Scottcoward and Heighter that the peasants drove their attack and succeeded in disrupting the enemy forces. Leaving many of the wounded behind, the reserve forces fled from that area in a disorganised manner. Scott and Heighter lost their lives in this battle. Thus on September 24, 1922 and for the first time Raju came to possess superior type of fire arms, namely rifles and mauser pistols.

Panicked by such a serious debacle the British Government employed more sepoys. The total number of them swelled upto five hundred. The command of this platoon was given to an officer named Heppell. But Raju's peasant forces were undaunted. On October 22, there was another encounter with the army and the peasants became victorious once again. By a rare speed and intensity of attack Raju's forces brought the Government forces into disarray. They started running helter and skelter. Sanders, the commandent, deserted the battlefield to save himself. Raju's peasant army smashed Chidambaram, a Government out-post. Simltaneously did they strike a severe blow to the transport and communication system and made the Teiephone and Telegraph in operative.

The British Government was seriously concerned; rifles and guns, they knew now, would not do. A new platoon equipped with machine guns and lewis guns were sent against Raju and his peasant forces. Peasant faced the new challenge with courage and determination. But the enemy had superior weapons both in quality and quantity. In the encounter of December 6, 1922, Raju's forces suffered heavy losses, He had to retreat with all his men.

But Raju was the last person to slacken his pace or to withdraw from the offensive line. Strategy, of course, had to be revised. He now decided upon an evasive move, turning away from the direct confrontation with the well armed forces. Till September 1923, Raju's peasant forces kept on organising themselves in small groups and attacking the different Government positions in distant localities. They created an atmosphere of panic by snatching away the armaments of one village sentries and sepoys and raiding upon different posts from time to time.

On September 30, 1923, a section of Raju's peasant army broke upon the Gudem police camp and destroyed it completely. The British Government tried desperately to put an end to the peasant insurgency. They applied more ruthless and stern measures. The Assam rifles were brought in. The whole area was cordoned by armed forces. Command posts were established at suitable places for carrying on regular raids upon the villages. Loot, plunder and burning of the peasants' huts went along. The village life was breathing very hard in the blood stained grip of the British power.

Raju's forces were sandwiched between the Government repressive measures and the evil machinations of the local village rich. There had been some defections in his camp. Peasants, although small in number, deserted his forces. Had Raju been present among his people, such adversities could have been over-come. But it was no more possible.

May 7, 1924, morning, Raju had been traced and trapped. First he got hit by a bullet. Yet he stood up and tried to break off the cordon. Henchmen of the British Imperialism caught hold of him and tied him. He was brought before Major Good-all of the Assam Rifles who shot him to death. Thus at the age of twenty seven, Raju, the idol of the people of the agency area, embraced the death of a hero.

There is a view that in order to put an end to the repressive measures on the villagers, Raju went to the enemy camp and surrendered. Whatever might be the fact, Sitarama Raju the great leader of the Rumpa peasants is a luminary among the freedom fighters against the British imperialists. The British Imperialists did not stop their brutalities even after the death of Raju. They took the lives of many of Raju's comrades, One of his comrades Yevder Pandal was killed by the Police on the 24th May. Another of his comrades Gandam Dora died a martyr's death along with eight others in an encounter with the police. Shortly after this Rumpa peasant revolt, a glorious epoch of Indian Freedom struggle, came to an end. Many fighters were arrested. They were sentenced to long terms of imprisonment. Some of them were sentenced to transportation for life and were deported to the Andamans.

EPILOGUE—Samarendra Ghosh, an ex-Andaman political prisoner, went to Andaman during December, 1973. His visit to this island was to make arrangements for the visit of a large number of patriotic men and women who established a pilgrim centre of a new kind at Andaman. During his visit he came across Sri Bonangi Pandu Padal, who was one of the participants of Raju's uprising. He along with Sri Korabu Kotaiah and Sri Taggi Birayiah Dora were confined in Andaman Cellular jail. This could be ascertained from the Andaman Jail records. However, only Sri Bonangi Pandu Padal was living at that time and Sri Ghosh collected from him many valuble informations of the Rumpa peasant revolt of 1922-24, Sri Bonangi gave him some more names who had also served

sentences of transportation at Andaman, in connection with Rumpa revolt. (They were Sri Auggi Raju, Sri Kuncheti Sanyashi, Sri Golivilli Saniage Saiah and Sri Korabu Pottaiah.)

After the expiry of the terms of his sentence Sri Bonangi Pandu Padal had been living at Andaman. Sri Pandu Padal was born in a peasant family of Vishakhapattanam district in 1890. Raju came to his village with an appeal to join the freedom fighters against the British. Sri Pandu padal along with many others of his village joined Raju's forces. With great sincerity and devotion he bore heavy responsibilities that were on his shoulder. The British Government declared a heavy reward for his head. Sri Pandu Padal died during the early part of 1974. He may be dead but he and his associates still live in the hearts of the patriotic people of our land. In the village operas and in folk lores of Andhra Pradesh he lives today and will live in the future also.

Notes

1. Bharater Boiplabik Sangramer Itihas—Suprakash Roy.
2. Amrita Bazar Patrika—Centenary Supplement—March, 1968.
3. Terrorist Movement in Andhra—B. Kashava Narayan—Vichinta—Magh, 1381.
4. Life of A. S. Raju—Narasingha Rao,
5. Script by ; Dr. Pullala Ramalashmi, M. B. B. S.
6. Interview with Bonangi Pandu Padal —by Samarendra Ghosh.

Peasant Rebellion in Burma (Tharawardy)

Jiten Ghosh

Bliss and happiness in the life of idyllic villages, sprawled in the rich and fertile green valleys and plains of Burma were destroyed : destroyed by a systematic and persistent process of exploitation and plunder practised by the British imperialists with the help of their lacal stooges, agents and their allies from other provinces of India. A large number of the agricultural farmers lost their land and homestead and were reduced to paupers and destitutes. Privation and misery reigned in the village social life replacing its earlier peaceful atmosphere. Never dying smiles that used to be found on the faces of Burmese villagers were gone, replaced by a harrowed look of despair and suffering. Peace in their homes were lost for ever. The peasants of the land which produced food in abundance feeding peoples of other countries, began to roam the streets of the towns and cities, begging for a mouthful of food. They took up any work in the houses of the rich, the Zamindars and Jotdars, in exchange for 2 meals a day only, Women from the broken village families flocked in the houses of ill fame and shame in the towns and cities. Village social life which survived vicissitudes for centuries, could not withstand the newly created economic crisis, The social fabric of village life crumpled down.

On the other hand, nothing, in place of old social order, providing gainful employment in the villages, was oriented. This was the conditlon of village life in Burma during the third decade of the 20th Century.

Agricultural population and peasants of Burma smarting under unprecedented and devastating economic crisis eagerly craved for a radical solution to their problems.

G.C,B.A. (General Councii of Burmese Association), the only political organisation of Burma, was during this period under the control and leadership of few Burmese feudal landlords and reformist intellectuals. This organisation though had its birth and growth from a mass movement in Burma, could not organise and lead a movement reflecting the popular demands. The then leaders of G. C. B. A. wanted to gain some political rights, some scope for employment placating the authorities and appealing, without causing annoyance, to the rulers. Their ultimate objective was to gain Home Rule under the British Empire. Consequently, it lost confidence of the extremists—the Firangees and economically ruined agricuitural population of Burma who demanded complete Independence of Burma.

In 1928, Annual Conferance of G.C.B.A. was held at MANDALAY. The conference was a turning point in the political history of Burma and at this conference, the extremists and moderates parted their ways for ever.

When a resolution was passedat this conference moved by the Extremist under the

leadership of Dr. Saya Sen declaring full independence by a mass movement by severing all relations with the British Government, establishment of a society without any form of exploitation as the ultimate objective of G.C.B.A., the moderates left the conference and seceded from the organisation, Dr. Saya Sen was clected General Secretary of G.C.B.A., vested with the entire responsibility of the organisation. One of the significant feature of this conference was, setting up a big Volunteer Corps, under the leadership of Dr. Saya Sen which ultimately played a very important role in the political history of Burma.

Dr. Saya Sen cherished a bitter hatred for the British and he was determined to free Burma driving away the British from Burma and establish a new happy and peaceful society. He considered raising a rebellious army with the agricultural population of Burma essential for the purpose and had set up a secret head quarter and secret organisation for the purpose while he organised forceful public propaganda work from the open platform of G.C.B.A, in support of independence of Burma.

(a) for repudiation of all agricultural loans
(b) for restoration of mortagaged lands to the peasants, and
(c) for reservation of 50% of the jobs for the sons of the soil at the Shipping Yard and Railways.

He simultaneously set up a secret headquarter in the dense forest of THARAWARDY and began to organise an armed force.

Presentday network of railway lines and roadways were non-existent in Burma during those days. Burma was mainly a land of green valley and jungles. There were many villages in the midst of dense forests, where rays of British civilisation could not penetrate nor the tentacles of Government machinery reach. Only a single headman, set up over several such villages, represented the Government who also collected the Government taxes. The villages enjoyed self-government.

Dr. Saya Sen began to organise the mass movements at both the fronts in rapid strides. He set up a workshop for manufacturing countrymade guns and ammunition in the forests of Tharawardy, recruited youth from all over Burma and trained them in the use of arms and warfare and organised a large volunteer army inside the dense jungles of Tharwardy. Branches of the secret organisation were set up in all the districts of Burma with branches of his guerilla army all over Burma. Ration in sufficient quantity was stored at Tharwardy so that a battle cauld be continued for somedays at least from Tharwardy, Dr. Saya Sen got maximum help in his above work of organising the mass rebelion from the agricultural population of Burma and collected all the requirements from the villages. A secret counter-espionage unit was set up to collect secret informations from Government offices and sources before actual rebellion started and transformed this unit for supplying intelligence about every troop movement, movement of ration convoys etc.

Thus came the year 1930. In India, the entire country was convulged by the Civil Disobedience Movement, Red Shirts of North Western Fornrier Province occupied the city of Peshawar removing vestiges of British administration therefrom though for a short-while. Armoury Raid in Chittagong and the open battle between Revolutionary Army and British Army in the Jalalabad Hills in Chitta-

gong, created tremendous patriotic upsurge among the youths of India, the revolutionaries of Bengal launched upon a crusade of killing British Officers as a part of their freedom struggle. Effects of all these patriotic upsurge for freedom in India reached the shores of Burma and had its impact on the peoples of Burma.

Dr. Saya Sen having completed his preparations by this time became ready for the battle. Flags of rebellion was raised on a night of December, 1930, as soon as Governor's train left Tharawardy Railway Station with a declaration that Burma belongs to the Burmese people. He issued a proclamation revoking all agricultural loans and abolishing all forms of exploitation. Buddhism was declared as the State Religion of Burma. Soon thereafter, fire of rebellion flared up all over Burma. Railway lines and bridges, telephones and telegraphs lines were destroyed at Tharawardy, arms and ammunitions of the police were snatched away, prison gates were broken, freeing the prisoners. Headman of villages and towns were disarmed. All these were the primary marks of opening war with the British Government at all the places. Tharawardy town remained under the control of rebels for 7 days. English District Magistrate valiantly (?) surrendered to the Revolutionaries making a declaration about the end of the British Rule in Tharawardy District.

After 7 days British Army entered the Tharawardy town and was engaged in a frontal battle with the Peasant army in Tharawardy jungle for 3 days. The British found it an uphill task to capture the Fort of the Revolutionaries at Tharawardy and resorted to heavy gun-shelling. Many lost their lives, fighting to the last drop of their blood while defending their headquarter at Tharawardy. Dr. Saya Sen escaped. The then British General could not but admire the valour and battle technique of the rebellious peasant army at Tharawardy.

Though the battle in Tharawardy ended, fire of rebellion spread all over Burma like wild fire. They attacked and captured the police lines and the jails at Insein and Emedin and set the prisoners free. All the big cities and towns of Burma received thrusts of rebel activity and the movement from then on resorted to guerilla method of warfare. British army convoys, ration convoys, were waylaid, looted and destroyed by disguised guerillas engaged harmlessly in tilling the nearby lands. The army personnel walking through the village paths were pounced upon and killed by men and women of the villages from behind with long-sized choppers. Army load of trains were derailed and destroyed, money carried in railway trains looted leaving behind no trace. British Government became baffled and bewildered and reckless at the harassing activities of the guerilla army. The British Government soon adopted most ruthless barbaric and inhuman methods, tortures and programme on the people by importing a large number of British troops from abroad.

The brutalities and the atrocities committed during this period in the villages of Burma by the British Army defies description. The British people who fought and shed their blood for theideals of Freedom, Democracy and Civil Rights in their own country did not hesitate to crush the people of Burma demanding the same rights, with extreme ferocity. Such is the law of exploitation and character of the imperialists. In Prome town 17 rebel heroes died in a battle—their heads were severed from the trunk and hung up on the main street of Prome town to terrorise

the people. The brutality and barbarism in the incident infuriated the villagers adding fuel to fire. Village after village began to be blown up by gun fire and shelling without even giving any warning to children, women and innocent people. The physical destruction of the villages continued for months together exposing the true character of the British rulers.

Government officials continued to plunder, loot and rape the villages. Heavy punitive taxes were imposed in the villages, women were raped and then killed by bayonet. All methods were adopted, both bribing and torturing for collection of information about the fighters, created spies and agents by paying heavy amounts, temptations and torture were freely used but could not crush the rebellion for 4 long years. Captured rebels were put to sham trials and hanged and there are instances when father and son were hanged on the same gallows together.

Such was the indominatable character of Burmese Revolutionaries. At the end of the 4th year Dr. Saya Sen was captured when he was unconsious by an attack of fever in his shelter in the dense forest of Mandal by the benevolence (?) of a treacherous friend. British Government staged a trial for this brave patriot and hanged him on the gallows. Thus ended the agricultural rebellion af Burma after 4 years of its struggle.

Unfortunately in this struggle, the students and intellectuals of Burma mostly remained aloof and did not take any part and could not comprehend the historic significance of this war for freedom which is known in the history of Burma as the peasant rebellion of Tharawardy.

Peasants of Burma also at that time were not so much conscious about their class interest though they were moved by extreme anti-British hatred caused by a ruthless form of exploitation bringing economic crisis in their lives. They participated in the rebellion to escape from their want and privations without realising the root cause of their suffering.

"In connection with the Tharawardy Rebellion in Burma, the home Member, Burma Government, stated on February 24, 1933, that 274 persons were sentenced to death of whom fifty-one had already been executed and the number of persons undergoing transportation for having taken part in the rebellion was 535."

—'Roll of Honour' by K. C. Ghosh
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Cellular Jail—Andaman
1932-1938
WOE AND WEAL

Dr. Bhupal Chandra Bose

Andaman : Andaman is a name to reckon with, a name that conjures up memories, memories sweet and bitter, memories soaked in blood, memories nursed in blood and memories that continue to be pent-up, in the emotions of the warm blood of our fellow brothers, who have similingly mounted the gallows, suffered torture and death, at the hand of their oppressors, with vow on their lips to see the indivisible and total freedom of their country, to which we were equally committed and whose memories call-out to us to redeem that pledge. Their souls call-out in anguish and our hearts suffer in embarassment—have we failed ? Can we still do it ?

Andaman calls back to the mind, the picture of a prison, constructed seventy/eighty years ago, by the British, to-keep in confinement, isolated, those whom it considered, the most turbulent contenders to their realm in India.

Andaman is a group of islands—a spray of rock and mud, over an area of 360 miles in length and 60 miles wide, in the sea of Bengal, nearer the coast of Burma than the head of the Bay. You have to sail 900 miles, over the blue waters, to sight the first speck of land. It, takes you three to four days.

Isolate and desolate, surrounded on all sides by the deep blue sea, inhabited by a few tribes of primitive head-hunters with deep forests and hills, such was the site selected, to keep those whom the Government considered the most dangerous challengers to their rule, the fighters for the liberty of their country.

Who are those who were sent there ? Who are those who were considered to be so dangerous by the Government ? What are their character, and/or conduct and/or status that entailed them to so frighten the Imperial Power, that a safe abode had to be found out for them, far out in the sea, isolated from the rest of the country, as to lose all link with their countrymen ? These are the men who staked their lives, gave an all-out fight for the freedom of their country, mounted the gallows, fought on the fields' struggled in the prisons, unnerved, in the dungeon of the torturecells, devised and created by the most unscrupulous Imperialist to break the resistance of these gallant soldiers but under no circumstances did they surrender. So famous has it become in the history of the struggle for our freedom, that after the transfer of power, Government of India has deemed it proper after many agitation to declare for its preservation as a National Memorial to be dedicated to the nation, where generations of men to come, will go in pilgrimage to pay their homage to those who made every cell of the jail sacred by their valiant sufferings.

Started in 1858 as a Penal Settlement just after the National rising in 1857, the jail was planned to contain 700 cells to accomodate the deported prisoners. Some of the prisoners of that national rising were sent to Andamans. Then came the leaders of the Wahabi movement, other valliant fighters who were tried outside and inside the country and subsquently sent to the Andamans.

About those periods before, 1932, Dr. Ramesh Chandra Majumder, the world renowned historian in his recent publication, has treated the subject in "Penal Settlement in the Andamans" in some detail. I have been requested by the Secretary of the Fraternity Circle to write my experiences of 1932 onwards when the first batch of prisoners, started going again from August, 1932. Sending prisoners to Andamans was abandoned after 1920, when the last batch of political prisoners were either released and/or were transferred to Indian Jails after the first world War. I refer here to Mr. Savarkar and others who were released after 1924 from the Indian Jails.

Tha Salt Satyagraha of 1930, caught the Indian people in a seething discontent. Indian jails were full to the brim, bursting at the seames, with civil resisters. All the prominent leaders had courted imprisonment. Government started barbed-wire fenced special jails. A reign of terror was let loose upon the people in which women were not spared.

The revolutionary organisations, which believed in armed struggle took up the challenge and started their planned reprisal against the sources of terrorism from the Government and struck against those white officers who bacame notoriously known for their indiscriminate assault upon the people without distinction of caste, creed or sex.

Unless the revolutionaries had taken up that challenge the people would have been completely demoralised and cowed. This challenge was taken-up by other revolutionary groups in other provinces also. From Cape comorin to the foot-hills of the Himalayas, from the North-We'stern Province to the borders of Burma, there happened merciless torture upon peaceful satyagrahis. Khudai Khitmatgars of the Frontier suffered bullets in the hands of the Government but did not strike-back with violence because of their oath to be nonviolent. The Gharwali Regiment refused to shoot upon the unarmed Khitmatgars Satyagrahis. As a result the whole Gharwali Regiment was disbanded and arrested and was sent to imprisonment under various terms, Recruitment from Gharwal for the army was stopped. The whole policy was changed to recruitment from lesser conscious tribal areas. The women Satyagrahis were not spared. They were beaten, insulted and in some place raped by the Huns let loose by the British blackguards, in Bengal, Assam, United Province, Bihar, Orissa, Bombay and other places.

The word given by the Revolutionary leaders to Desha Bandhu Chittaranjan not to introduce violent action in peaceful civil Satyagraha movement, was now considered by the leaders as obsolete and ripe for reconsideration and withdrawal. If they had not done so, if the revolutionary leaders had not taken-up the challenge, by counter-terrorist action, the country would have slumped into a paralysis and could not have recovered from the shocks for decades to come, to any resistence to a brutal remorseless Government.

In 1937, when the 1935 Act of reforms was just about to be set going, and Gandhiji

became busy on the question of the release on the revolutionary workers and leaders from the jail and was negotiating with the Government for this purpose he saw the writer of this article in the Howrah Jail, where he was kept isolated after being brought back from the Andamans. The discussion that ensued was very simple. Gandhiji was very eager to know, whether he can assure the Government, that the revolutionaries had eschewed violence and prepared to say so publicly so that Gandhiji can press for their release. The answer was a simple one and the writer was perforce to point out to him that terrorism is the by-product of the Gandhiji's movement and that terrorism of any Government will naturally evoke counter-terrorism and unless the revolutionaries had taken up that challenge, Gandhiji would not have been able to hold the position that Gandhiji then held and act a go-between the parties. As for the greater interest of national freedom, it was not possible for the writer to give an undertaking on anything of the sort unless such category of prisoners are free to consult amongst themselves.

A new assessment naturally was taking place amongst us on the intrinsic merit and value of individual action in the struggle for liberation, in debates and studies, in the background of world developments. After memorable hunger-strike of 1933, large number of literature and magazines were available to us. The British Government and their stooges had already opened a systematic campaign in the press and on the platform, castigating our actions as barborous, crude and vulgar and against all ethical laws of humanity. If those actions that took place between the years 1930 to 1933 in the panaroma of national struggle for freedom, are properly balanced and judged, in the context of the published documents, that have now come to light from the archives of the British Government and/or the independent research of scholars, it becomes at once revealing and clear whom the British Government considered the real enemies to their rule of exploitation. Therefore there is nothing to repent, recant, decry, or feel ashamed for what we as revolutionary did or attempted to do as a counter-terrorist action to the action of the Governmental terrorism.

Even at that terrorism has its own intrinsic value in the struggle for freedom for an unarmed people, having no power of defence. Terrorism is a philosophy of struggle, a stage in the process of awakening an incubating, slumbering giant, the unconscious masses to the consciousness of its own power. Terrorism is the powder-keg to break the slumber of the coming revolution. It is the foot-steps of coming events. When the power becomes corrupt, society gets slow, when there appears no remedy for the downtroden, when the voiceless masses are oppressed and exploited, either by the foreigners or by their indigenous supporters, then the gun at the terrorist sounds the approach of a new dawn, a hope for the hopeless. Hypnosis of people disappears, and there is a new awareness of their strength.

This was the situation in 1930, when the revolutionaries burst forth, in thousand and one actions. There was on the one side, Chittagong Rising, deliberately and out of political design, dubbed as Chittagong Armoury Raid by the Government in order to minimise its significance and importance and there on the other end of the country Salimar Garden Fight between the revolutionaries and the police. In between there are hundreds of big and small cases like that of

the Battle of the Varandah in the Writers Buildings, West Bengal, murder of Peddie, Burge, Douglas, all Magistrates of Midnapur, attempt on the life of Sir Charless Tagart, notorious Police Commissioner of Calcutta, attempt on the life of the Governors of Bengal and innumerable other political armed actions. In fact every Bengalee home had contributed its quota to the cause.

In these actions as many as could be taken into custody on suspicion or information or confessions were arrested and sent to Detention Camys without trial. Others were sent-up for trial. To cut down the process of law, special Tribunals and special courts were set-up, and Judges commited to the Administration were appointed, to carry out what police wanted them to do.

All through-out Bengal (Bengal was not then divided) there were over 2000 who were thus convicted for revolutionary activities and lodged in the different Jails and about more than 8000 sent to Detention Camps. There were also the non-violent civil disobedience prisoners, who had broken the salt-laws and they were also more than severel hundreds of thousands of them in Jails. The jails were bursting at the seams.

The compromise agreement of 1931 having failed, the Government got ready for the next bout. The Congress leaders who had returned formed the Round-Table Conference, empty handed, were immediately arrested on landing at Bombay. Revolutionary prisoners who could not be proceeded against for want of sufficient evidence, were put under custody under the Security Ordinance. Bulk of them were shifted outside Bengel to Deoli Detention Camp, a camp in the midst of the Rajasthan desert wherefrom it would be defficult to communicate or escape. Selected hundreds were put there under a military commandant. Other special jails were opened in Bengal at Berhampore, Buxa and Hiji. Besides in every jail in Bengal, special wards were segregated under special guards, to detain some of these revolutionaries. Besides some of these revolutionary leaders were segregated and kept in solitary confinement in jails outside Bengal. In initiating such a policy of repression and seggegation, to confront the respect civil disobediance movement drew, the Government, it appears, took ample precaution to prevent infection of revolutionary thoughts into the rank of the general Civil Disobedience Prisoners.

Now amongst the convicted prisoners, some of them were sent to prisons outside Bengal as already stated, to far off Punjab or Gujarat, etc, This was the state of affairs at the end of 1931, after the first round of the Salt Satyagraha movement of 1930

As the second phase of the civil disobedience movement started and revolutionary activities mounted, the Andamans were opened to receive the activity of the revolutionary movement i. e. were convicted to transportation or convicted over a term of five years or more.

The Andaman Cellular Jail was designed to keep the largest number of revolutionary elements condemned to long terms of imprisonment at a miniumm cost and personnel with the maximum of efficiency. Those who were considered as the most daggerous of the revolutionary elements by the Government and a constant trouble to their peaceful occupation and enjoyment of power and control of the country, were sent to the solitary cells of the Andaman Cellular Jail. The Jail was so designed as said before that the least number of men were required to maintain that vast prison-complex. Such a prison

the Government thought would be safe from shocks and jerks of public agitation and exposure and the prying eyes of the press. Very little news the Government thought, could trickle over the sea to reach the din and bustle of every day life of the mainland. Nobody could know what was happening and not happening there, in that God-forbidden land, of which the keeper Jailor Mr. Berry could boast—"He is the God and there was no other God there." The patriots sent there lost in the eternal silence of the deep, unless the putrid news of a murder or a suicide of tormented soul or the inhuman torture upon those defenceless soldiers of freedom, bottled-up from under the sea, long after the events had happened. Now, we could know something of that horrible dungeon from the writings of those few surviving wrecks who managed to live and come alive from that living hell, to tell those horrible and sad tales.

The Andaman Cellular Jail was like a gigantic wheel with seven massive spokes or wings fanning out from a central hub or Tower, Rims of the wheel joined from end of end at the far end of the wings formed the outer wall of the jail and held a triangular yard in between the two adjacent wings, which contained the work-shed, common lavatory and the bathing platform holding sea-water in long trough. All the wings are three storeyed structures. with long rows of dingy cells 9'—5' with a hole for ventilation at the back and small grated iron door in front opening in a long protected corridor a couple of feet wide running along the whole length of the wing. A sentry at the Central Tower could keep watch and control of all the cells in all the seven barracks at the same level at the same time.

walls of the jail, were never touched with a coat of plaster of lime and mortar since its very foundation. Fromthe crevices in the bare bricks you, could see in the night, bugs come down in line like ants, and fall upon the prisoner attempting to sleep after he is locked-up after a day's hard labour for rest. Besides there are centipedes, scorpions and snakes to combat with in the dark, since no light was provided, and snakes would creep in direct from the sea.

Now in the dingy hole, the prisoner had to get in at dusk every day and get locked, answer the Night watchman every time calls and roll about on the dirty blanket in dire distress, as it was difficult to close the two lids together because of the foul smell, Bugs, centipedes, snakes and mosquitoes humming round. That was our humble experience, as well, when we were deported there in 1932. You get no light, cell is dark except for the dim glimmer of the sky. Dull ray of the lanterns would momentarily fight this dense darkness but could not even penetrate the depth at the other end of the cell, when the sentry casually would come on his round to tally the total numbers of inmates. In that horrible hole no sooner you are down on your bed, long line of bugs like ants as already stated will come out of the crevices of the bare bricks and pounce upon you enmasse. How are you going to defend yourselve when these and the horrible scorpions, the snakes that come directly from the sea, surround you ? That, is something of a real fight, will be clearly visible when you come out in the morning .bitten red all over the body to receive your morning gruel for a tiffin. Then you are handed over to working-gangs under strict watch for pounding the cocoanut fibre or turn the oil-mill blind fold to get out of you, 15 pounds of fibers or 30 lbs of oil, as the case may be. They must get their pound

of flesh, otherwise prepare yourself to get the worst reward, in penal diets or standing handcuffs.

Rains come over for seven months in a year in continuous torrents and what protection have you in your cell against ? None, two top-floors roofs are as good as sitting under the open sky. The roofs are like a mason's sieve. You have no protection. The walls at roof joints are cavered with green moss, inches thick. That is the condition.

In the night you are the most unfortunate, if you are to attend to a call of nature, No sentry is nearby to attehd you or open the cell. You are to hunt for those wretched wonderful, tarred tin pots in the dark and carefully aim yourself to the two small opening in the pots for you to successfully complete the job. A good acrobat or a Yogi is required to perform those jobs satisfactorily, you had to go for a hunger-strike to get a better designed pot for the purpose.

Then what are the foods these condemned creatures, thrown to the mercy of the unknown future, to die slowly and stealthily, unknown and unwept, are offered to eat ? In the morning they are given a dubba of cooked watery gruel full of worms and weavals ? locally known as Kanji. Then you are sent to work under the strict eyes of the convict-watch-man only to receive, abuse insults and kicks from them to get the full quota of your work out of you.

Even flogging was not out-of-bounds for these hopeless political suffers for any resistance to work. In fact, on the slightest pretext four of our most respected leaders were not spared the Flogging Triangle. They were Sri Shudhendu Dam, Prabir Goswami and Pran Krishna Chakravarty and Chandranath Bhattacherya. Some times the ordinary convicts, who were given to look-after and supervise, would out-do each other, to victimise the politicals, to curry favour with the officers in order to get a few days of remission of their term of conviction. Besides our respected elders of 1910-16 were forced to work on the roads, break stones, cut jungles, carry loads like coolies as punishments.

After finishing the work, the prisoners are led to finish bath in saline sea water. The main meals of the day were then ready for serving. That food was not even fit for pigs.

A quantity of cooked rice full of worms and weavels, emitting a foul smell of decomposition, a laddle of Dal-bitter to taste, curry prepared of wild thorny shrubs, boiled and sprinkled with salt, was all that was given for food, for a mid-day meal. The same menu was repeated again in evening. Hundreds of worms could be counted in a chapati supplied and bitter to taste.

This was how our predecessors upto 1916 had to suffer and work. The group sent during 1932 to 1938, to some extent were placed in a title better position because of political development and concentration of large numbers together in the jail.

This is the way the Government thought that by putting these men into the straight jacket of repression, the Government would be able to pull them out clean of their stubborn faith and national moorings, they will be shaken out of their conviction. Between 1858 to 1800 many of them who were sent, were rebels of 1857 and / or otherwise convicted for rising against the Government, had committed suicide, courted death by fasting or attempting to escape by jumping into the sea and / or escaped to other islands in the group and are lost from record. And many others again settled-down and became mixed-up in the local population. That was

one phase of the history of Andamans and its political suffers upto 1909.

Some authentic report about the next batch of political prisoners who were deported—between 1910 to 1916, during the first world war and just prior to it are available to some extent from the writings of those who survived. What they had suffered, remains eloquent in the words they have left in their anecdotes and have been very nicely dealt with by Dr. Majumdar in his recent book the 'Penal Settlement. Those who survived are to-day no more in the living except one or two.

Now as stated, the movements in 1930 set forces in operation leading to revolutionary out-bursts, throughout the length and breath of India, specially in Bengal.

The Status of the political prisoners in general still then upto 1930 had remained more or less undefined, not to speak of those who were convicted of revolutionary activities.

The issue was taken-up by Jatin Das lodged in the Lahore Central Jail as an undertrial in the 3rd Lahore Conspiracy case.

After 63 days of fast he died in the Lahore Central Jail on the issue of the status and privileges of the political prisoners. There was spontaneous agitation throughout the country. The press were full of it. The Government was forced to yield partially to the demands by recognising political prisoners and introducing classification of such prisoners according to their social status and thus again sought to create a difference amongst prisoners themselves. The full demand of equal status for all political prisoners irrespective of the sections of the Penal Code however, was accepted after the great hunger strike in the Dacca Jail in 1938 in which Haren Munshi sacrificed his life.

Failure of talks on compromise at London, in 1930/1931 led to the precipitation of the second phase of the civil disobedience movement. Gandhiji was sent to London to sit as the only representative on behalf of the Congress with half-a dozen other communal and non-descript parties of sectarian interests, deliberately invited by the British Government with the misehievous intention to create a dead-lock, then came out with a very suave and innocent face and told the world—"Sorry, Indjans could not agree amongst themselves". The plenipotentiary of the Congress was diplomatically outwitted.

In the meantime, India Government got ready. to meet the next challenge from the Congress. The Government allowed the Salt Satyagraha to play out its potentiality to gauze the depth and strength of the movement. No sooner Gandhiji and his entourage landed at Bombay, all the leaders were arrested in swift succession. Many of the long term revolutionary prisoners were transferred to jails far outside the province as a precautionary measure to meet the challenge.

Movements that started after the failure of Round-Table at London petered out by the end of the 1932 as a spent-out force. But the activities of the revolutionary continued unabated for the time being. As a measure of ample precaution, the Government again decided to deport prisoners to Andamans and started shifting dangerous long term revolutionary elements to the safe haven of the Cellular Jail.

The prisoners convicted in the Chittagong Armoury Raid along with others were the first batch to be deported to the Andamans at the end of August, 1932. Other batches in quick succession followed subsequently.

From distant jails in India our friends were brought to the Alipore Central Jail for transfer to the Andamans.

The process of that transfer too was also a great experience. The whole route from Alipore Central Jail to the dock was lined with armed police. All other traffic was closed. The prisoners were handcuffed and chained in pairs at the jail gate. Iron fetters were rivetted to their legs and adjacent hands in the pair were manacled and 10 or 12 were again linked together by a long chain at the end held by a sentry. In a close police-van all of us were whisked into the "Maharaja" anchored at the dock. Maharaja carried our predecessors also.

After all the formalities at the entrance of the ship were finished, we were led three decks below just beside the "Engine Room" to our new prison in the ship. The hand-cuffs were taken off but not the Bar-Fetters. Perhaps Savarkar's attempt-escape from the ship in France, put Government on the alert For 4 days, we were literally boiled by the heat of the engine room. Every morning and evening we were taken to the open deck, for fresh air but not without our hand-cuffs, and chain in between. That was the only hours of relief during the four days of constant chugging of the ship under the deep blue sky above and the vast limitless sea below. Ships kitchen served our food-tea twice and meals twice. The ship chugged on and on a not so tranquil sea.

On the fourth day, land was sighted and the ship touched port at 11 a. m.

At last we got down with our bags, baggages and kits all. There were ordinary convicts to carry the few belonging we had, only a few trunks of books that we brought. We trudged along, again in two and in chains holding the bar-fettets in one hand. Which was tied to our waist, as otherwise it would hurt. Some amongst us had already bleeding injuries on their legs and after a few turns on a hille undulating road we reached the great gates of the Cellular Jail boldly written at its Entrance, to be received by the Jailor Mr. Baines.

Fetters and hand-cuffs were taken-off and the gates opened to let us in. On entering the gate we were searched and then received by one of our friends who had accepted office under the authority as the Chief Liason Officer to act as the communicating link between the jail office and the prisoners.

All political prisoners, this time were classified as permanently incarcerated in short P. I. prisoners. After a couple of months quarantine, ordinary prisoners were allowed to go out and work their term outside, and live in huts built for the purpose, known as "Tabu", a type of community barrack and paid for the work by the Government. Political prisoners had no such scope and/or facility.

As stated, the issue of the status of the political prisoners were not fully solved. On social status they were classified and divided into Division II and Division III. Division II prisoners were moved to one of the wings facing the sea. The rest of us who were not so classified were moved to other wings where Division III friends were lodged and kept. We had no facilities of inter-communication. Amongst the different wings we could not intermingle. All wings are closed. Only link of the communication was through the jail office and through our Liason friend.

Division II prisoners were allowed a Hurricane Lantern and an Iron cot, a mattress and pillow for a bed, a pitcher for water. Diets provided was of a better scale as provided

for in Indian jails under the new system after the martyrdom of Jatin Das.

The food to division III prisoners had remained where it was thirty years back. Day after day they were subjected to hard labour and food unfit for human consumption. There was no social amenities or intellectual life. There was no cot, no light, no proper medical care. Life was not worth living like that. News began to trickle through devious channel to us in the separate wings.

Several attempts were made before our arrival to rectify grievances but no avail. The authorities would not budge an inch from what they were doing. The prisoners have to be strightened-up in the tight-jacket of jail discipline by torture, terror and above all by slow poisoning of mal-nutrition.

Health proved to be the first casualty. Our friends in Division II also began to lose weight and suffer from different ailments. Complaints had no effect. No proper medical care was there. An unpassed doctor was in charge of the day to day care.

Anger grew. Grew with it frustration. With frustration came a desperate determination to undo the dead-weight of this monstrous machine that is slowly draining out our will to survive. The hunger-strike of 1933 was, therefore, decided and launched upon. That was horrible experience, a life and death struggle with the very devil in its den. A hundred men had decided to die and fight.

The remorseless repression and dauntless fight has no parallel in history. Three lives were lost. Dead bodies were thrown into the sea, tied with stones. Strikers did not know that their friends had been murdered. The heartless bureaucracy of the Andamans knows no compassion, no ethics, no morality, no scrupules. I will not go into the details of those fearful days, when twenty to thirty of our friends were hovering between life and death. Water was shut down. All facilities to struggling men, hovering between life and death, were denied. Bathing or washing of face and mouth denied. You hear only groans and shouts for water and the measured thud of the sentry's boots.

You cannot in a prison fight silent torture and terror by physical force. You are over powered in a minute and killed off under a plea. The revolutionary prisoners who considered at the beginning of their life in prison such struggle with disdain, as a nagging wife's quarreling with her husband, as womanly and unmanly, came to realise with their experience in jail that hungerstrike is the only sure method to work upon the psychology of their oppressors and a way to appeal to the people outside.

First few days of the hunger-strike are gruelling. Dreams of food, and images of varieties of food pass before your mental eyes in endless chain. Craving is intense. Hunger begins to devour the very intestines. Only determination holds you on, when you feel life is not worth living under such indignities death become preferable. That keeps you on and goads you on.

From the fifth or sixth day, feeling or hunger subsides. The body gets weaker, mind reaches a determind balance to carry you on. You are set in the psychology of a hunger-striker.

The voice of the people began to rent the sky in India. Telegrams began to pour in hundreds requesting to call off the strike. On the 45th day, after sacrificing three of our friends, Mahavir Singh, Mohit Moitra, and Mohan Kishore Namodas, the hunger-strike was called off. The nuts and bolts of Andaman prison were loosened.

Gradually the authorities thought it wise to withdraw their rigid control from inside the jail. Movements became free. Within the jail one could move freely. Every one could run to the office for redressing his grievances. The different kitchens were more or less amalgammed. Food was generally served on a uniform standard. The wall between II and III was not however abolished. With Division II and III improved rations were more or less adjusted to settle us on an uniform menu. Books and magazines become a little more free and intellectual pursuit was highly intensified in detailed discussions and dialogues and seminars. Intense intellectual efforts sometimes also adversely affected health of our friends and they were ordered rest for a while to recover.

I regret to say, a comparative role of the different forces in the great struggle for national liberation has not yet been properly assessed, dealt with and / or treated by historian, scholars and / or revolutionary fighters themselves. It is painful to note that the great role of the revolutionary in that sacred struggle stands literally unrecognised and suppressed. An attempt made by renowned historians and scholars have not been able to overcome the obstacles. They had to give it up. This task still await clearance at the hands of impartial historians and research scholars, who should be given free access to the archives and secret documents of the period.

Inner history of the social and political conflict within the confines of the Cellular jail has been deliberately avoided here. We had our few humours and also enjoyed the by-sides of our life to keep our mind free from jail blue. There were unforgetable characters both amongst the young and the old who gave us enough food to laugh away our gloom.

If young Parimal and Serajul were not there who would have given us so much fun by their antics. Young Barin and Serajul would give us fine demonstrations of their dancing skill for us to enjoy. If Dhrubesh Chatterjee and Ananta Chakravarty was not well conversant with the Burmese language who would have secured for us a young Burmese boy and show us the wonderful "Pao" Dance of Burmah. We could only realise to what height the Indian Artist could rise without the touch of vulgarity. If Prakash Seal was not there who would under stand the great heart within that old frame. If Dr. Bhupal Bose had not improvised his telescope made out of spectacle lenses who would have shown the stars and the moon with all its craters and mountains to us. Puia would have been a dull affair if Dr. Bose had not decorated the show to demnstrate the change of seasons and people would not have flocked to see it. If Hriday Das had not been composing poetry all the hours of the day and much in the night, who would have found the pleasure of organising a function in his honour to confer upon him a great title of 'Poet Laureate or "Kabya Upanaham".

A couple of more of such anecdotes will not be, I hope boring but interesting and enjoyable. Late Satish Prakashi was a great leader. Movements in jail had then become more free. One day Satish babu and myself together went to the jail-office on some enquiry. The clerk was a Madrasi gentleman and did not know Bengali. I introduced Satish Babu as "Great Buzrook". The Word "Buzrook" in urdu means a highly learned man. I was fresh from Punjab and urdu was on the tip of my tongue. Satish Babu was highly offended. He told me on way back why I had insulted him by calling him "Buzrook" as Satish Babu had done no harm

to the writer. He would not accept any explanation and did not talk to me for a week. Then after seven or eight days he suddenly caught hold of me with out stretched arms and embracing me told me that I, too was a great Buzrook". We laughed and laughed. In Bengali Boozrook means a cheat or a charlatan and Satish Babu misunderstood me and he knew no Urdu.

Another day as I was just sitting in the second floor of the No. 5 verandah, facing the sea enjoying the darkness just descending upon the sea, and light in the Ross Island was simmering a soft glow over foamy crest of the waves, playing in endless chain and was ieaving an uncanny feeling on the mind. Lalu Singh was calling the P. Is. to their respective cells, my attention was suddenly drawn by angry voices below. Parimal, Barin and several others with hurricane lanterns in their hands were running about the long big out-fall drain of the yard which runs into the sea. I went down to see what the matter was for the quarrel. I wss amused and surprised when Parimal approached me to divide the jurisdiction between the parties, over the drain.

That family belongs to him, claimed Parimal others cannot touch them. Lo, it was all about catching crabs that came up through the drain from the sea and they were after them—to have a meal out of their meat for a private feast. What could they do when no fish or meat for months were available. Of course Parimal was a fine lad. He would always share with me a piece even from a sparrow caught in his net cooked. This is how in frolics and fun, lighter side of life kept up the balance in the sombie atmosphere of that monstrous jail.

All these are anecdotes enjoyable to remember but for brevity, need not be enlarged.

In laugh and laughter, with all the criss-cross of emotions, attachment and separation, with autonomy within the confines of the walls, life rolled on and evenly flowed on, after the great event of 1933, was again approaching to close its chapter in 1938. Jail authorities were careful not to muddle in any way, sinc 1933, the internal affairs of the jail. Management of the kitchen, purchase and every facilities that could be made available were at our command. Except small pin-pricks life seem to move evenly peacefully within the precincts of the jail. But health of many of our friends were showing signs of break-dowd from various ailments. Monotony of life, cut-of from all currents of normal life, far away from friends and relations were also having its pschychological effects.

In the meantime, in 1936 Sir Yamin Khan and Lala Hansraj, members of the Central Lagislature, visited the jail, to enquire into the conditions of politidal prisoners. Thcy saw us and enquired into our grievances, Amongst our various grievances that we placed before them, we considered it important to demand our repatriation, in the light of the fast changing political situation that was taking place in the country, We figured it out that unless we try to force the hand of the Government, we will be left out of the mainstream of the country. Our demand for repatriation will, we rightly figured out, serve as a live issue in the hands of the Congress, to put pressure upon the Government and also popularise our causebefore the common people,

Sinco 1933, political situation in India was fast changing. International situation was surcharged with the possbility of of another world war. Germany under Hitler was fast arming. For asuccessful prosecution

of any war for Britain a peaceful and contented India is a sine-qua-non, Britain was eager for compromise, and wanted to set the operation of 1935 Act as quickly as possible and get the Congress to work it. Election were announced and held. Congress after much deliberations participated in the elections and except in Bengal, Punjab and Sind, was in majority in all the provinces.

Negotiation between the Congress and the Government was going on. Talks were proceeding between Viceroy and Gandhiji. From various sources and papers available to us, we watched the situation keenly. We realised that we must get back to the country to be in the main currents of the country. Failing health of large number of our friends also perturbed us. We had already placed our demand for repatriation to the Commission of Enquiry. We now served an ultimation to the Government for repatriation and launched our hunger-strike by the end July, 1937.

The issue was at once taken up by the country. Large number of meeting and demonstration began to be held. Students and youth organisations came out on the streets with large processions and demonstration on the demand for repatriation. Calcutta, Bombay, Madras and other large cities of the country became full with such demonstrations. Workers from factories came out with banners and festoons to support the demand for repatriation. Public meetings were held and resolutions were passed demanding repatriation. Everybody in the country irrespective of party was stirred. Congress joined the Government in all the provinces with the assurance of a free hand to repatriate their prisoners, Bengal Government also yielded to the demand. Telegrams from all quarters poured forth to the distant Island from leaders including Gandhiji and Rabindranath, requesting us to call-off the Hunger-Strike. Government had already sent special medical staff to look after and care for the life of the prisoners.

We watched the intensification of the agitation in the country for our repatriation, where in the labour unions also joined hands. In the face of the coming war, the Government first hesitated but finally had to yield to get Congress support to work the Ministry in the different provinces. This hesitant attitude led us to lanch upon this second great strike. It was a strike not upon any local grievances or against the local authorifies but was on a purely political issue,

In the light of the development and in facs of the appeal from Rabindranath and Gandhiji, we considered it right to review the situation and decided to call-off the strike after 37 days, after it was launched.

The last batch of prisoners left the shores of Andamans in tears in their eyes and with an emotional attachment for the Islands.

It is upon this island that Netaii Subhas Chandra had raised the flag of Independence during the last great war, and named the Island as 'Sahid Island' and Nicobar as 'Swaraj Island'.

The chapter of imprisonment in the Andamans durjng 1932-38 closed.

Cellular Jail- -(Andaman)
1932-1938

Struggles within and without

Ganesh Ghosh

After about eleven years the British Government in India opened out the Andamans and more precisely the Cellular Jail once again for the deportation of thc political prisoners from India. The Andamans were for all practical purpose closed down by about 1921 as a penal settlement and al political prisoners detained therein were sent back to India.

There were no all-India movement during the later half of the twenties, nor were there many revolutionary activities either in Bengal or in many other provinces. But after the deliberate and calculated provocation provided by the Brrtish Government through the appointment of the Simon Commission to humiliatə and disgrace India before the world and after the unprovoked murder of Lala Lajpat Rai for no reason whatsoever, the people of India girded up their loins and came forward to accept the challedge. Before long the whole of India practically went up in flames Revolutionary activitie, some of them of a very serious kind broke out not only in Bengal but in many provinces also. Some patriotic rebels suddenly took possession of all the centres of power of the foreign imperialists in Chittagong including all armouries and drove the Britishers out. The Writers' Building at Calcutta, the main centre of British admjnistration of eastern part of India and one of their most secure and protected places was successfully attacked and British blood had been spilled inside. The district administrator of Commilla, one of their most protected persons, had to pay with his life in the hands of two young revolutionary girls for their misrule. These are only a few of many many simillar others.

Under that embarassing political situation for them the Government of India again opened out the Cellular jail as a short cut to provide deterrent to the patriotic youngmen who were active practicelly all over India to organise an armed uprising as a sure measure to overthrow and drive out the British freebooters lording over India.

By the middle of August 1932, the first batch of the political prisoners, of this period was deported to the Andamans. Their number was not many. They were only twenty-three and all convicted in a number of cases in Bengal, such as,—the Mechuabazar Bomb case, the Barisal Pòlice Murder case, the Chittagong Armoury case, the Assanulla murder case and such other cases. The first batch of deportees consisted of Ananta Singh, Lokenath Bal, Ganesh Ghose and nine others of the Chittagong case. Mukul Sen and Nishakanta Roy Chowdhury of the Mechuabazar Bomb case, Ramesh Chatterjee af the Barisal Police Murder case who was originally sentenced to die hut the High Court in consideration of his minor age revi-

ewed the sentence and gave him transportation for life, Prohodh Roy of Saldah Dacoity case, Haripada Bhattacharjee of Assanullah Murder case. Kalipada Chakraborty of Chandpur Police officer murder case, Prabir Goswami of Mymensingh arms Find out case, Sushil Das Gupta of Puthia Mail Robbery case, Suresh Das of Calcutta murder case, Manaranjan Guha Thakurta of Calcutta Arms Find case and Bimal Das Gupta of Vellier's shooting and of Peddy murder.

This first batch of polirical prisonr arrived in the Cellular Jail on the 18th of August 1932, But the condition and arrangements for the political prisoners within the Cellular was totally unsuitable, rather intolerable for the stay of the political prisoners there. From the very first day they felt that unless some improvement at least in the condition of their living in the Jail could be brought about, very soon it would be impossible for them to remain alive for some time in the ensuing future. But considering the number of the fighters which is always a very big factor for exerting good pressure on the opposite side and thus for making the struggle effective and also for favourable impressing and influencing the people of the country, it was decided to wait till their number increased sufficiently.

In a few months more political prisoners were sent to the Cellular Jail and by the middle of 1933 the political prisoners finding no other means of improving the condition of their living within the Cellular Jail felt obliged to take to hunger strike into death for realisation of their demands.

The hunger strike by the mass of the political prisoners was declared on the 12th of May, 1933. In their attempt to forcibly feed the starving prisoners the Government deliberately killed one after another three prisoners within the first thirteen days of the strike. The news of the hunger strike by the deported patriots in a distant forlorn and unknown land and also the news of the death of them under most pathetic and deplorable circumstances "caused great excitement in India and Rabindranath Tagore sent a cab.e imploring the prisoners to call of the strike with the message : 'your motherland will never forgot her full blown flowers' The death of the three strikers and the heroic struggle of the rest caused a strong popular excitement and a vigorous propaganda was carried in the Press.

At last the Government was forced to concede demands of the hunger strikers and the strike was called off on the 26th of June 1933 on the forty-sixth day after its commencement. The victory though won at a great cost brought substantial relief to the prisoners owing to the concessions they were able to snatch from the unwilling hands of the Government. In brief, the following were the most important and substantial concessions amongst others.

(1) Books, newspapers and journals could be purchased by the prisoners and were also supplied by the Government. The prisoners could read them either individually or in a body thereby facilitating meetings, debates and discussions.

(2) Rules of communication were relaxed.

(3) Lights were provided in each cell at night.

(4) Facillties were provided for sports and both indoor and outdoor games such as carom board, chess, playing cards, ping pong football and volley ball as well as for music and even armatic performances.

(5) Hours of work were reduced, light work was given as rule, etc. etc."

As one of the prisoners has later said with regard to these privileges : "What made our life most intolerable previously was the complete absence of any scope for an intellectual and cultural development. Of the new facilites that we obtained, we valued most those pertaining to this sphere. We had now the right to subscribe magazines both Indian and foreign...we could also receive books in parcels...all the attitude of the Jail officers had undergone a radical change. In their dealings with us we now did not find any lack of courtesy. We had no more to face indignities in our daily life".

This facility to study and to hold meetings, discussions and details was like a great boon to the prisoners, many of whom had little time and advantage of getting a good schooling and knowledge before their conviction. In a few months after the conclusion of the hunger-strike the Cellular Jail turned up into a veritable "University" in which almost all the prisoners, old and young alike, devoted themselves to intensive study and discussions. The realisation of their improvement and advance in the acquirement of knowledge gave the prisoners more incentive, more energies and more enthusiasm to make more exertions to acquire more knowledge.

Thus days, months and years slowly rolled by without much to say about the condition within the Cellular Jail. The main task and occupation of the political prisoners were to study, ask questions, to discuss and to acquire knowledge. It is needless to say the prisoners made arrangements to hold regular classes in almost all possible subjects. Even qualified doctors amongst them held classes on biology, physiology and such subjects. These classes were really interesting and attraced a good number of students.

In the meanwhile more political prisoners were sent there from India and some who had almost completed their period of conviction were sent back to India. This provided the prisoners in the Cellular Jail facilities to know the latest political situation and development of India as also to send to the prisoners in the Indian Jails and to the people of India their own condition and demands.

Gradually they entered the year 1932 and slowly passed through even more than half of the same.

During all those years 281 political prisoners were deported from various provinces to the Cellular Jail and 165 were sent back to India on completion of their sentence leaving only 216 by the middle of 1937. There were in all 339 prisoners from Bengal, 19 from Behar, 11 from the U. P. 5 from Assam, 3 from Punjab, 2 from Delhi and 2 from Madras.

Among the prisoners were Sardar Gurumukh Singh of Lahore Conspiracy case of 1916 who had once been sent earlier to the Cellular Jail in 1917 and after repatriation in 1920 had escaped from an Indian Jail. He had again been sent to the Cellular Jail in 1926 after his arrest in a Punjab Village to serve out the remainder of his earlier sentence. Similar was the case with Nikhil Ranjan Guha Roy of Bengal who was also sent to the Celtular Jail a second time in 1936. There were Dhanwantari of Delhi, Sheo Varma, Bejoy Sinha and Joydev Kapur Batukeswar Dutt, Dr. Gaya Prasad and Kamal Nath Tiwari who were colleagues and co-accused or Sardar Bhagat Singh, Satis Pakrashi, Niranjan Sengupta, Sudhanshu Das Gupta and Sachin Kar Guptaof Mechua-

bazar Bomb Case, Dr. Narayn Ray and Dr. Bhupal Bose of Calcutta conspiracy case, also known as the Dalhousie Square Bomb case, Ananta Chakraborty, Dhrubesh Chatterjce and Rakhal Dey of Dakshineswar Bomb case and also of Alipur Jail Murder case, Jogen Sukul, and Shyam Vartnar of Behar; Nalini Das and Jagadananda Mukherjee of Cornawalls Street shooting case, Sunil Chatterjee of Watson Shooting case, Biraj Deb of Brahmanbaria spy mudder case, Khoka Rai of Mymensingh' Saroj Guha, Kali Dey and Mani Datta of Chittageng fame, Suren Kar of Madaripur, Sirajul Huq of Hooghly, Benoy Roy of Grasby shooting and Bhola Roy of Luke shooting fame amongst others.

There were also the following political prisoners who were originally condemed to death but later the High Dourt modified the sentences and gave them transportation for life : Maeoranjan Banerjee for attempting to kill the Governor of Bengal at Darjeeling Prankrishna Chackrabarty, Satyabrata Chakrabarty, Hrishikesh Bhattacharjee and Saroj Bose of Hili Railway Station Raid case, Suraj Nath Chanbey of Patna Police Murder case and Ramesh Chatterjee of Barisal Police Inspector Murder case.

The political prisoners with in the Cellular Jail understood clearly even through the very limited and meagre resources they had or getting international informatiions that very dark clouds had been fast gathering on the international arena and might war break out before much time could elapse.

But on the home front, indications were somewhat more hopeful. The 1935 Reforms had already been put into effect in India despite the refusal by the Congress leaders to accept the same inspite of the opposition by the overwhelmingly vast majority of the people of the country, Eleclions had already been held in accordance with the New Act which showed that the Congress with its policy of opposition te the Act had registered decisive victories in seven out of the elven provinces and after receiving a definite assurance that the Governors would not interfere into the day to day activitles of the Ministers, the Congress formed Ministries in seven provinces and helped to form popular ministries in Assam and Sind.

This was an absolutely new factor in the poiitical history of present day India and the formation of Ministries by the representatives of the people in seven provinces with great power and influence in two more provided the prisoners within the Cellular Jail with great hope that assured possibilities lay ahead and could be utilised if only proper advantage of the situation could be taken before long. They correctly and clearly understood that if they failed to take proper advantage of the possibilities created by history in India, there would be little chance left for them to go back to their home lands again if the fast gathering dark clouds in the international horizon broke and a world war started.

After a great deal of discussion amogst themselves the prisoners unanimously decided to send a representation to the Central Government demanding early release of all politicals and immediate repatriation of all political prisoners from the Andamans. These demands were also voiced both within the Delhi Assembly and In the Press. A few days later two members of rhe Delhi Assembiy Raizada Aansraj (Congress) and Yamin Khan (Muslim League) were sent to the Andamaas to know the feeling of the prisoners and to see the condition in which they were living. The Raizada was secretly told by the prisoners that if within the next

two months they were not repatriated to India their bodies would float in the sea water.

After another round of prolonged, thorough and detailed discussions amongst all the political parties groups and individuals within the Cellular Jail, it was unanimously decided that they should place only the following three demands before the Government. with the last two ones as the best and minimum demands, without the implementation of which their ensuing struggle would not either be withdrawn or postponed at any time :

(1) Early release of all political prisoners, both convicted or detained without trial.

(2) Immediate repatriation of all political prisoners from the Andamans.

(3) Immediate classification of all convicted politicals as Div-II prisoners.

Frantic atlempts were immediately made to establish secret contacts with a number of centres and progressive individuals living at various places in India and information about the imminence of the hunger strike in the Cellular Jail with the above three demands were sent to them.

A committee was also formed with the representatives of all political parties and groups to conduct and guide the mass hunger strike.

Arrangements wers also made through the prisoner friends who were repatricated during the few weeks immediately preceeding or early stage of the hunger strike to send information about the hunger strike to all the detention camps in India and the Central Jails wherein political prisioners and detenus were in detention.

At last just fifteen days before the commencement of the struggle an ultimatum was sent to the Government of India that if the three demands were not conceeded immediately, the prisoners would go on a hunger strike unto death in support of their demands—And twenty four hours before the commencement a similar notice was sent to the Chief Commissioner of the Andamans.

These notices did not produce any helpful response from tte Government and hence 183 political prisoners of the Cellular Jail began their hunger strike from the fourth week of July 1937, with the definite determination that nothing short of a realisation of their minimum demands of their death would be able to intervene in their struggle.

Within the next two or three days almost all the progressive newspapers of India gave out the news of the hunger-strike. And within a fortnight almost all the political detenus detained without trial in various Jails and detention camps including the Hijili, Buxa and Deoli Camp situated within the Rajasthan desert and almost all the convicted political prisoners detained in the Berhampur, Alipur, Presidency, Rajsahi, Midnapur, Dacca and other jails resorted to hunger-strike in support of the Andaman prisoners. Students and youth organitions almost all over India organised meetings and demonstrations in support.

The Congrass came out in support of the Andaman prisoners and organised meetings and demonstrations all over India, and even the Congress Ministries incorporated the demand of the release of politicals as one of the major items of their programme.

It appeared as if the whole of India had waken up and had started moving in support of the demands of the Andaman politicals.

After the collapse of the 1930-32 all India struggle, a stalemate as also a popular inertia had set in within the political sphere

of India which the 1937 hunger strike by the Andaman prisoners had helped to break. The hunger strike also helped to build up a huge and powerful all-India movement against the foreign imperialists and also prepared the ground for the bigger struggle of the Indian people launched in the nineteen forties.

A point deserves special mention here. All the political prisoners detained in the Cellular Jail at that time, irrespective of their allegiance and loyalty to their respective groups and parties unanimously supported the struggle (hunger strike) and the demands mentioned above. Consequently, 183 prisoners out of a total of 214 or 86% of them joined the struggle. Even prisoners with an alarmingly health like Sudhendu Dam (Mamu) or Shashin Chakrabarty and a few similar others joined the hunger strike without caring in the least the dangerousconsequences their hunger-strike might cause any moment. Practically only who were prohibited by the leaders stayed back.

This can be gain said that only an inconveivably superior and effective arrangement for medical care and attention for the prisoners on hunger strike by Capt. B. Chowdhury, Senior Medical Officer of the Andamans, helped to avert any disaster whatsoever, but for which the calamity would have been incalculable.

Telegrams from Gandhiji and from Rabindranath and from almost all the Congress Chief Ministers requesting suspension of the hunger strike came pouring into the Cellular Jail. At last even a message from Fazlul Hug Chief Minster of Bengal imploring cessation of the strike came. A telegram from Muzaffar Ahmad, Niharendu Datta Mazumdar and Bankim Mukherjee, three top leaders of the left politicals of the time told the prisoners that there were assurances that their minimum demands would be fulfilled before long and as such they should give up the hunger strike.

The telegrams noted above convinced almost all the starving prisoners that assurances must have been received from the Chief Minister of Bengal that they would be taken back soon. So, the prisoners demanded from the Jail authorities facilities to meet together to come to a decision. This was conceeded and after a thorough and prolonged discussion lasting over several hours a decision was taken to withdraw the hunger strike. It was in the first week of September, after 45 days of the commencement of the strike, that the hunger strike was called off.

Within the same month the first batch of prisoners consisting of prisoners from Punjab, the U. P., Bihar and Madras with about fifty of Bengal were repatriated to their own provinces. The third and the last batch left the Andamans on the 18th of January, 1938, and by the time this last batch came over to India all the political convicts in the Bengal Jails were put into Div, II.

Netaji Subhas Hoists National Flag on the Regained soil of Andamans—The Indian Bastille

Kallcharan Ghosh

"...July 2 (1943) Found Subhas in Singapore and at a conference of East Asian delegate, held—on July", 1943, Subhas accepted the Presidentship of 'the league' (Indian Independence League) from Rash Behari Bose....

The formation of the Azad Hind Fauj was publicly announced on July 5, with a remarkable oration addressed to the soldiers of the Army of Liberation.

"It was the proudest day of his life, said Netaji, for by the Grace of Providence he was spared the unique honour of announcing to the whole world that India's Army of Liberation has come into being. In ringing words. Netaji said.

"Comrades ! My soldiers ! Let your battle cry be 'Chalo Delhi'. How many of us will individually survive this war of freedom, I do not know. But I do know this, that we shall ultimately win and our task will not end until our surviving heroes hold the victory parade on another graveyard of the British Empire—the Lal Killa of ancient Delhi.

"I assure you that I shall be with you in darkness and in sunshine, in sorrow and in joy, in suffering and in victory, For the present, I can offer you nothing except hunger, thirst, suffering, forced marches and death. It does not matter who among us will live to see India free. It is enough that India shall be free and that we shall give our all to make her free.

"Get up, we have no time to loss. Take up your arms. There, in front of you is the road that our pioneers have built. We shall march along that road. We shall carve our way through enemy's ranks, or if God wills, we shall die a martyr's death.

"And in our last sleep we shall kiss the road that will bring our Army to Delhi. The road to Delhi is the road to Freedom. Chalo Delhi".

"...The first press conference was held at the Singapore Cricket Club or the Kowkan Club on July 10, 1943, where he stated that the time had come for the East Asian Indians to take up arms and strike a blow to England in concert with the warriors of Nippon for the freedom of India. To this end he had accepted the leadership of the 'Indian Indepence League' in East Asia and the command of the 'Indian National Army'.

"Further in order to put the relationship with Japan on a footing of equality he intended to establish very soon a Provisional Government of Free India.

"The Japanese press correspondents were also told about the formation of a Lady's Brigade as part of the Army. The world came to know on July 12, 1943, that woman were going to form section in the Indian National Army, the Azad Hind Fouj, and to play there the same role as men—rather a unique event in the history of armies of the Asiatics.

"Matters now began to move with kaleidoscopic rapidity. Burma was declared independent on August 1. the Indian National Army was put on a modern military footing and to faciliate work Subhas Chandra took direct command of the army on August 25, 1943. The momentous event was relayed to the world over the radio. While announcing his assumption of the charge of Sipah Salar, Supreme Commander, Netaji made a speech in all respects worthy both of the occasion and of the leader, Said he.

"In the interests of the Indian Independence Movement and of the Azad Hind Fouj I have taken over the direct command of our Army from this day,

'This is for me a matter of joy and pride because for an Indian, there can be no greater honour than to be a Commander of India's Army of Liberation. But I am conscious of the magnitude of the task that I have undertaken and I feel weighed down with a sense of responsibility.

'I am determined to discharge my duties in such a manner that the interests of those thirtyeight croress may be safe in my hands, and that every single Indian will have reason to put complete trust in me'.

"—The Azad Hind (Provisional though) Government was formed on October 21, 1943. The event together with the names of Members of the cabinet were announced with the solemnity at a meeting of Indian representatives all over East Asia at Sathay Cinema Buildings in Singapore.

"A proclamation was issued under the signature of Subhas Chandra Bose. as Head of the State, Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Supreme Commander of the Indian National Army on the Occasion. After tracing the history of the Freedom Movement in India since British occupation, he said, it was incumbent upon Indians now to establish outside India a ProvisionalGovernment and launch the last struggle under the aegis of Government' as this could not be done due to all the leaders being inside jail. It concluded with a stirring appeal to the people in and outside India to rally round in the name of God, in the name of bygone generations who have welded in the Indian people into one nation, and in the name of dead heroes who have bequeathed to us a tradition of heroism and self-sacrifice' the banner of the Provisional Government and strike for India's freedom'. The time was ripe and could not brook any further delay.

"Japan extended its recognition of the newly formed Azad Hind Government of India on October 23 ; the Provisional Government decided in a Cabinet 'meeting on the same day and war was declared on the United Kingdom and the United States of America at 12-15 a. m. on October 24, 1943.

"...The Greater East Asiatic Nations' Assembly opened its session in Tokyo on November 5. 1943. Premier Tojo declared in the Assembly on November 7, Japan's decision to hand over the Andaman and Nicobar Islands to the Indians. After prolonged discussion about the future course of action Netaji left Tokyo on November 18, 1943, returning to Singapore on November 25.

"Netaji visited the Andamans on December 29, 1943, where he was received by the Japanese Admiral at Port Blair and conferred with the C-in-C of the Japanese forces on the next day.'

He then went round the historic Cellular Jail—the Bastille of India—when the wailing walls told him in silent voice the woes of the flesh of the prisoners under torture and the cool courage and unduanted spirit that braved the fury of the authorities like rocks las-

hed by the wind and the wave through ages.

On next day, the 30th, the national flag was hoisted by Netaji on the liberated soil, an act first of its kind in the history of British rule in India. All the formalities of regaining lost territory from the enemy were gone through. The National Anthem sung in chorus by almost the whole of the assemblage heightend the solemnity of the occasion.

During the course of the day the National Flag was placed on top of the British Chief Commissioner's residence in Ross Island' Netaji expressed the hope, amply fulfilled, that some day the same flag would be waving on the viceregal Lodge in New Delhi.

In press interview in the first quarter of 1944, Nataji put great stress on the significance of regaining the Andamans by the Indians said he :

By the acquisition of this territory, the provisional Government has now become a national entity in fact as well as in name. The liberation of the Andamans has symbolic signifance because the Andamans was always used by the British as a prison for political prisoners—like the Bastile in Paris, which was liberated first in the French Revolution, setting free political prisoners, the Andamans where our patriots suffered is the first to be liberated in India's fight for Independence. Part by part, Indian territory will be liberated but it is always the first plot of land that holds the most significance.

The Andamans was renamed as Shaheed in memory of the Martyrs and the Nicobars as Swaraj.

For the shake of convenience the head quarters of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind was moved to Burma on January 7, 1944, with the principal members of the Cabinet. The I. N. A. started its attack in the mountain regions of Arakan near the Indo-Burma border on February 4. 1944. Taung Bazar was occupied on the same day; Sactabin in the Kaladan Sector on March 1, Kaladan itself on March 5. Fort White was reduced on March 8 and Laveecot on 12. The view of Indian soil was now in front of the conquering heroes from Kennedy Peak whice was occupied on March 18, 1944, and on the next day the Indian national flag was planted on the Indian territory still in occupation of the British under the guise of the Government of India.

The administration of the Andamans and Nicobars was formally handed over to the Azad Hind Government on February 17, 1944.

Cellular Jail—National Memorial

AMAR RAHE !

Madhu Banerjee

The day Eleventh February 1979 will remain a red letter day in the annals of India.

On this very day Shri Morarji Desai the then Prime minister of India though brief but in a solemn and distinctive function declaring Cellular Jail a National Memorial to the Congregation of National heroes of one hundred and thirtythree Andaman exiled political prisoners and their relatives, forty freedom fighters of Main Land, elites of the Andamans and thousand of local common people dedicated it to the Nation.

In this auspicious inaugural function of National Memorial in front of the Main Gate of Cellular Jail, Dhanik Lal Mandal the then State Minister of Home affairs took the presidential chair. At the outset S. M. Krishnatry, the chief Commissioner of Andaman and Nicobar Islands placed a brief report in the function. Among other things in the report he said, "On the occation of this glorious and happy function I on behalf of my Administration pay my respectful homage to these great freedom fighters who had suffered inhuman repression tortures and hardship in these dark dungeons and sacrificed their lives for the sake of liberation of our Country."

"The masses of the people of our country harbour this hope in their hearts of hearts that our heroic freedom fighters who had undergone limitless repression here, who had shed their last drop of blood and courted death, this extreme sacrifice and their undaunted spirit and saga of bravery will always inspire our future generation and they would be ready to dedicate their lives for the freedom and glory of our motherland."

Sri Morarji Desai in his inaugural speech said that it was a matter of great elation to our Nation that the patriots who were incarcerated in this Cellular jail prior to our independence did not bow their heads to the Colonial Rule, It is the great sacrifice which they made and the mass awakening that resulted in the Country as a whole which ultimately brought freedom to the Country.

In his address to the function the Prime Minister said, immediately after the achievement of independence Cellular jail should have been declared as National Memorial. But that was not done. However he expressed the hope that the inhabitants of these islands would help to make the Country a great and noble one.

The president Dhanik Lal Mondal in his address said, Cellular Jail has stood as a shrine of liberation and this shrine would be the Continuous source of Immense inspiration to the generation to come.

After declaration of Cellular Jail a National Memorial, the Prime Minister released a Souvenir entiled "Singh Dwar" brought out on this occasion. Shri A. K. Sen Senior Director of Post and Telegraph West

Bengal Circle presented a special cancellation cover bearing the emblem of Cellular jail to the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister remitted the sentences of convicted prisoners of District jail of Port Blair ranging from one month to one year on this happy occasion.

Aftar the inaugural ceremony of National Memorial, the Prime Minister went round the newly built Museum called "Shaheed Smrityan" at the entrance block of the historical Cellular Jail which included some Photographs of Ex-Andaman freedom fighters, model of flogging of a freedom fighter in a trangle made of Plaster of Paris, freedom fighter in hand-cuff, bar and chain fetters, utensils used by the prisoners, uniforms used by the prisoners and Jail-warders, sceneries depicting Vir Savarkar writing on the walls the thoughts that burdened his mind when kept in Solitary Confinement where writing materials were denied to him. Besides these, the replica of oilmill for grinding Co-coanut oil, Club for Pounding Coir and many such medieval forms of slave Labour forecd upon the freedom fighters to work with were exihibited. There was a Photograph of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose who was visiting Cellular Jail accompanied by a Japanese General. While the Museum was in a nascent stage and in a miniature form still the initiative taken by the Andaman Authorities was note worthey.

After the inspection of Museum by the Prime Minister, the Group photos of Prime Minister and Ex-Andaman Political prisoners were taken. Subsequently the Prime Minister Visited the historical Cellular Jail.

DREAM OF "FRATERNITY CIRCLE" COMES TRUE.

At last the long cherished dream of "Ex-Andaman Political Prisoners' Fraternity circle" turned into a reality. Long since, Ex-Andaman political prisoners Fraternity circle had been demanding to declare the Cellular jail a National Memorial. When the Congress Government began demolishing The Cellular jail and wanted to efface it from the surface of earth, the quick effective intervention by Ex-Andaman political prisoners' Fraternity circle saved the three wings and the Central tower. When the strong protest was voiced by the Fratarnity circle and Parliament against the levelling down Cellular jail to the Ground, the Government tried to wash out its hands by spining stories of earthquakes and Japanese bombardments.

In 1946 the then interim Government of India (Sardar Ballav Bhai Patel was then Home Minister) issued a circular to blot out out all the stigmas of atrocities and brutal repression perpetrated by the British in India. In concurrance with that circular during the regime of Congress Government amongst seven wings of Cellular Jail the four wings were demolished and a Hospital in the name of Govinda Ballav Panth was constructed on that place. The Fraternity circle had published that circular and thereby exposed the inner motive of the Government to the people.

Untiring and ceaseless endeavour of the Fraternity Circle and the united demand of the members of Parliament irrespective of parties and creeds forced the then Congress Government under the Premiership of Sreemati Indira Gandhi to take the decision of declaring Cellular Jail a National Memorial in the month of May 1963. After that also

that Government began to prevaricate to implement the decision. The repeated deputations and Memoranda were given to the Prime Minister Sreemati Indira Gandhi by the Fraternity Circle to inaugurate the Cellular Jail as National Memorial but to no avail. In this way years passed by, the list of breaking of promises by the Government was becoming larger and larger.

Subsequently the Government of Janata Party was saddled into power. In 1978 in the month of July a strong delegation of "Ex-Andaman political prisoners' Fraternity circle consisting of three presidents pramanand Jhansi Ganesh Ghose Dr. Bhupal Bose senior vice-president probodh Roy, vice president Biswa Nath Mathur, Executive number Barin Ghose and the General Secretary Bongeswar Roy Submitted a Memorondum to the Government of India. The delegation met the President Sanjib Reddy, the Prime Minister Morarji Desai and the State Minister of Home affairs Dhanik Lal Mandal and urged them to inaugurate the Cellular Jail as a National Memorial through an official Ceremony without delay and invite all the living Ex-Andaman Political Prisoners as state Guest to participate in the inaugural function. The Varions M, Ps. Of Janata Party, C. P. I., C. P. I, (M), and congress rendered unstinte support and help to the Fraternity Circle in this respct. The service of then C. P. I. (M) M. P. Jyotirmoy Bose and Cong (I) M. P. Asoke Sen was worth mentioning. But the service of Bhupesh Gupta the then leader of C. P, I. group in Rajya Sabha was immeasurable and incomparable. His help to the cause of freedom fighters in general and Fraternity Circle in particular knew no bounds. The touching and moving and unforgettable statement that Bhupesh Gupta made in Rajya Sobha on, 31st July 1978 to transform the Cellular jail into a National Memorial and make it another Tajmahal would remain ever living and fresh in the memory of the people. This time Prime Minister Morarji Desai had given assurance in the Rajya Sabha to implement the decision of transforming Cellular jail into a National Memorial as soon as possible and he kept his promise.

People of India were very much happy to see Andaman Cellular jail a National Memorial. Happy were the freedom fighters and particularly extremely happy were the Ex-Andaman political prisoners.

MASS MEETING IN THE JIMKHANA GROUND.

A mass meeting was held in the Jimkhana Ground under the chairmanship of Dhanik Lal Mandal. Ex-Andaman political prisoners, the freedom fighters of Main Land and their relatives participated in the meeting. On behalf of Ex Andaman Political prisoners' fraternity circle one of the President of Fraternity Circle and one of the leader of Chittagong Rebellion Ganesh Ghose addressed the meeting. Ganesh Ghose expressed his deep joy at the declaration of cellular jail a National Memorial and gave heart-felt thanks to the Prime Minister and Government of India. After demolition of some wings of Cellular jail Hospital that was constructed in the name Govinda Ballav Panth, he demanded the change of this name and urged to give the name of the Hospital "Andaman Cellular Jail Martyr's Memorial Hospital" He appealed to the Government of India to do their best to build up a rich Library, Museum,

Seminar Hall, Research centre and a Pilgrim's Guest House as a part of full fledged National Memorial. Jyotirmoy Bose M. P also delivered a speech in the meeting. He gave a clarion call to the Govt. to write a history of penal settlement and Freedom fighters who were incarcerated in Cellular Jail. The other President of the Fraternity circle Baba Prithwi Sing Azad the legendary figure of the Gaddar movement expressed his unfathomed Joy at the inanguration of Cellular Jail as a National Memorial and thanked the Prime Minister for it.

The Prime Minister Shri Morarji Desai in his address gave the assurance that no stone will remain unturned to transform the National Memorial into a real one in Congruity with the glorious hallowed memory of the freedom fighters.

RECEPTION OF FREEDOM FIGHTERS

On the occasion of inaugural ceremony of Cellular Jail as a National Memorial the Administrative authorities of Andaman and Nicobar Islands extended the invitation to all Ex-Andaman political prisoners to participate in the function. An official Reception Committee was formed making the Chief secretary of the Andamans Administration Chairman to receive the freedom fighters. The Chief Commissioner of Andaman and Nicobar Islands S. M. Krishnatry, the members of the Reception Committee and large number of local people gave a rousing reception of the freedom fighters when they landed at Hadds wharf, Port Blair from the ship.

Besides it a non-official Reception Committee was also formed by the distinguished citizens of Port Blair. The freedom fighters were accorded reception in "Atul Smriti Hall" by this Committee.

ANDAMAN, THE INDIAN BASTILLE

Since the first war of Indipendence in 1857 onwards to the revolutionary armed struggle and upheavals of Nineteen thirties innumerable freedom fighters devoted to the cause of making India free from the bondage of British Rule were deported and exiled in the Andamans, Amongst them were the prisoners of war of Independence, the prisoners of wahabi movement (1860-1870), Gaddar movement (1915), Moplap Rebellion (1922-24), Rampa Rebellion of Andhra (1924-25). Tharwardy Rebellion of Burma (1930). Besides this, freedom fighters of various phases of revolutionary struggle of Bengal including Chittagong Rebellion, Punjab, U. P., Assam, Bihar and Madras were also exiled. Since 1909 to 1921 and 1932 to 1938 in these two phases majority were the revolutionary fighters of Bengal and Punjab who were deported to the Andamans and were incarcerated in Cellular Jail.

During so long a period of bondage numberless warriors of freedom had undergone brutal and savage repression in the soil of the Andamans and innumerable heroic freedom fighters faced the gallows and bullets. The gallows of Viper Island still bears the witness of this diabolical tyranny and perpetual atrocities perpetrated by the Britishers. But the fire of patriotism that was Kindled in the hearts of Indian people could not be extinguished by utter practice of terror and torture.

Here in this Andaman Islands Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose hoisted the first flag of Independence of India in 1943. Thus the

Andamans bathed in flood of countless undaunted heroic and noble sons of India has become sacred and has become a place of pilgrimage for the freedom loving people.

CELLULAR JAIL, THE SHRINE OF FREEDOM STRUGGLE.

What a great sacrifice had been made on the alter of this Shrine of freedom struggle. What a draconian atrocities, oppression and repression had been faced by freedom fighters here. What a glorious chapter of freedom struggle had been written by the blood, sweat and tears of the freedom fighters who were thrown into the dark dungeons of this Cellular Jail. Thus Andaman Cellular Jail stands as a Monument of great heroes who fought a battle of liberation of their beloved motherland from the British yoke.

A historic pilgrim's voyage was organised by Ex-Andaman Political prisoner's Fraternity circle in the month of January 1974. Three hundred and eighty one pilgrims including ninety five Ex-Andaman Political Prisoners, some Mainland fredeom fighters, some freedom fighters of Bangladesh and their relatives went to visit Cellnlar Jail, the Shrine of freedom struggle by a special ship "Rangat".

Since then, the pilgrim's voyage are being organised in batches every year by the Fraternity circle. Many people are going to visit Mukti-Tirtha Andaman and the Shrine of freedom struggle, the Cellular Jail with their sense of pride and glory.

But it will not be out of place to mention here and express deep anguish for the apathetic attitude the Government of India and the Andaman authorities are maintaining in respect of making the National Memorial a full-fledged one with rich Library, Museum, Seminar Hall' Research centre and a pilgrim's Guest House as demanded by the Fraternity circle.

Inspite of repeated deputations and Memorunda by the Ex-Andaman Political Prisoners' Fraternity circle to the said Authorities the issues in question have been kept in cold storage. It is now essential for the people of India to fulminate and march ahead to shake up the Government and force them to take all necessary steps to fulfil the tasks so far remained undone.

Cellular Jail, a National Memorial, the glorious monument of sacrifice of Indian fighters for freedom would illuminate the path of struggle of the present and future generation and inspire them to go forward to build up a great and new India.

The Significance of the Cellular Jail in our Freedom—Struggle.

Satyendra Narayan Mazumdar

(1) The Cellular Jail in the Andamans occupy a very significant place in the history of India's Freedem-Struggle. Its claim to be recognised as a national monument has been recognised. Denial of that claim would have been the Freedom-Struggle itself. The revolutionary prisoners incarcerated in the cellular jail were representatives of the national revolutionary movement which was one of the major streams of our overall freedom movement. The British Government resorted to inhuman treatment and torture with a view to breaking the spirit of these prisoners. The latter fought back with death-defying heroism and iron determination day after day, year after year, and remained defiant, unbroken. By sheer willpower they could overcome the physical tortures inflicted on them and ultimately succeeded in wresting concessions from the prison authorities. To fight back with one's back to the wall, isolated in solitary confinement, with ironfetters on hands and feet, require far more courage than soldiers fighting the enemy face to face with arms in hand. This requires not merely physical but also superior moral courage which stems from the firmness of conviction, inextinguishable flame of patriotism and inexhaustible faith in the just character of the cause for which they were fighting. If the bricks of the cellular Jail could cry out like the "Hungry Stones" of Rabindra Nath Tagore, they could provide eloquent testimony to the epic struggle that went on inside those dark dungeons.

(2) Wherefrom did they derive such unconquerable moral fortitude, what was the source of strength that sustained them through the ordeal of fire? Mere youthful impulsiveness and romantic dream could not provide such sustenance through rigorous ordeals prolonged over several years. In order to understand that, one must know the philosophy of life that inspired them and the ideals that motivated their actions. In other words a knowledge of the aims and object for which the revolutionaires dedicated their lives, is essential.

(3) The British Government described them as despicable criminals. Though every question concerning this category of prisoners was dealt with by the political section of the Home-Department, yet the authorities refused to recognise them as political prisoners. In the eyes of the authorities they were murderers. dacoits, smugglers and so on. Technically it was so, the revolutionary prisoners were convicted under various offences enumerated in the Indian Penal Code ranging from waging war and conspiring to wage war against the Emperor to murder, attempt to murder, possesaion of illegal arms and commission of dacoities etc. Later on, the government used to designate this category of prisoners under the general

term "Terrorists." It was meant to be a term expressing scorn. Sir John Anderson who was the Governor of Bengal from 1932-1937 arrogantly declared that no clemency would be shown towards the terrorists unless and until every finger is pointed to them and every door is banged on their faces.

But patriofic public opinion stubbornly refused to be misled by the propaganda of the Government. There were different shades of opinion in the public attitude towards the revolutionaries. Some described them as misguided patriots. This was in general the attitude of the votaries of the non-violent mode of struggle. Some other thought of the revolutionaries as romantic visionaries dashing their heads in vain against stone walls. But no section of patriotic opinion doubted the sincerety of their motives and their lofty idealism. To the vast majority of the people, barring a microscopic minority of the Boot-lickers of British imperialism, they were heroes and martyrs sacrificing their lives at the altar of the motherland. Whatever might have been the mistakes and ommissions and commissions of the revolutionaries, None doubted that they acted from altruistic motives and not for selfish personal or group gains. Some sections condemned the murders and dactoities, while others were critical of those actions. But no one ever questioned the fact that even in these activities the revolutionaries were inspired by the noblest of ideals. Murders of tyrannical govt. officials and police spies were in retaliation against the brutal violence let let loose by the alien Government. The dacoities were Committed in order to procure money for the purchase of arms and ammunition. They did not like this method of procuring money, but were compelled to resort to it because the affluent sections refused to donate money to the cause of revolution. Dacoities were in general Committed in the houses of usurers and other rich people who exploited the poorer sections of the society and also Govt. treasuries.

(5) The public during the period of such revolutionary activites had practically little Knowledge about the aims and objects and programme of the secret revolutionary organisations. This was inevitable under the conditions prevailing in that time. The revolutionary organisations were banned and its members were continuously hunted down by the sleuths of the intelligence department. Utmost secrecy had to be maintained. The illegal pamphlets and booklets which were published by the revolutionaries with a view to acquainting the public with their aims and objects, had very limited circulation. Any one found in possession of the same was sure to be sentenced to a term of hard labour. The nationalist press rarely dared to print excerpts from the same for fear of being penalised under the charge of preaching sedition. Thus whatever amount of information about the aims and objects and activities of the revslutionaries could be available to the public was through the court proceedings of the trials of revolutionary cases. Even on the basis of that scanty information a lot of myth was woven anound the activities of the revolutionaries in the public mind. They were respected and honoured as selfsacrificing patriots, heroes and martyrs, but were at the same time transformed into dim shadowy figures of legends and myths. It is however a matter of regret that even thirty years after independence, no serious and systematic effort has been made to prepare a comprehensive history of the national revolutionary movement. On the one hand, there has been

uncritical idol worshipping and romantic myth-creations. On the other hand, there has grown a tendency even among progressive scholars, of course with a few exceptions, who deal with the history of our freedom movement to dismiss this movement, one of the principal streams of Indian struggle for national liberation, with some superficial observations and a condescending pat on the back for their sacrifices and sufferings. Even the term "Terrorism" which was put into circulation by the British Govarnment as a term of derision has been uncritically accepted and is being applied by the above mentioned scholars.

(6) If a balancessheet is worked out, keeping inview the conditions prevailing in the period in which the secret revolutionary move ment chalked out a distinctive path of its own off the beaten track of constitutional agitation and constitutional politics, must be admitted that the positive contributions far outweigh the mistakes and weaknesses. The latter were due to inmaturity and lack of experience. It must be brone in mind that the mass liberation struggle itself was in the nascent stage. The masses had just began to enter field of conscious political action. In such a situation it was these revolutionaries who first raised the banner of complete independence. Very few politicians even dared to think of it at that time. The revolutionaries set the objective of the achievement of complete independence through revoluationary struggle culminating in a country-wide armed insurrection.

(7) They were influnced by the teachings of Swami Vivekananda, Bankim Chandra, marzzini and Garibaldi, the Russian and Irish revalutionaries and other patriotic heroes and cherished the dream of an independent India where there would be no exploitation of man by man. It was true that their vision was nebulous at the stage, yet it is at the same time undeniable that their ideals even at that initial stage contained elemcnts of economical social liberation as well. They initiated the search for a revolutionary ideology and a revolutionary programme by drawing lessons from our own history as well as from the histories of the revolutionary struggles in other countries. They were inspired by the heroic deeds of the peasant revolts that had takan place in our country earlier, including the Great Rebellion of 1957, the Santal insurrection and the struggles of the indigo cultivators, It is true that they did not clearly realise the historical sinnificance of thc peasant uprisings, nor could they at that stage draw correct conclusions. Yet they thought of the toiling masses and expected them to join the revolutionary struggle spontaneously when the same would be launched by a determined core of professional revolutionaries.

(9) The revolutionaries did not only preach but set living examples of selfsacrifice of burning patriotism, of a life dedicated to the cause of freedom of the motherland without expecting any reward save and except that of self-immolation. They did not hanker for public applause. Many died, not only unwept and unsung, but even unknown to their contrymen for whom they laid down their lives. At a time when the overwhelming majority of their own kith and kin was engaged in the pursuit of selfish personal or family interests, these revolutionaries started their perilous journey along a path in every bend of which lurked privation, danger and death. By their shining examples of martyrdom they succeeded in instilling among the people the spirit of defiance against the mightiest empire of the world.

They set living examples of devotion to duty, sense of discipline and service for the down-trodden masses. They did not preach social reform but broke down the barriers of age-old revered customs and superstitions. They revolted against everything that placed obstacles in the path of the onward march of revolution.

(10) One of the most positive and concrete contributions made by them was the creation, in Bengal, Punjab and to some extent in U. P., of a durable frame-work of secret organisation of tested. tried and dedicated workers. As a second line of defence was created a band of part time workers and sympathisers which acted as the reserve force of the movement. Unbridled repression launched by the British Govt. failed to wipe out the existence of such organisations in the subsequent period, in the '20s, many of of these tested cadres were found in the forefront of the national organisations at the lower levels as well as in the forefront of the student and youth organisations. The British Government was fully aware of the potential danger from the existence of even the battered remnants of such organisation in the face of the rising tide of mass discontent in the first postwar years. This was perhaps one of the important reasons which led the British Government to appoint the Sedition Committee in December 1917. It is true that the main objective of the revolutionaries namely organising revolt among the Indian Soldiers aud synchronising it with countrywide armed insurrection, did not succed. But the very audacious and daring character of the plan thrilled the imagination of the public when the facts began to be known gradually. It must also be admitted that no single stream of our national liberation struggle including the mass movement led by the Indian National congress can claim to have achieved success all along the front at any phase of the struggle. There were partial victories and bigger defeats form the paint of view of the objective set before itself. The partial victories were utilised as the stepping stones for future activities.

(13) This was the period of transition. The revolutionaries were confornted with the task of orientating themselves to the vast changes that had occurred in the country as well as in the international arena in the post-war world. They were faced not only with a new situation but also with many new opportunities as well as avenues of work. The mass upsurge in the country influenced their thinking and offered scope for new methods of work. After some initial hesitations all the revolutionary organisations decided to join the Indian National congress and utilise it to spread the network of their organisation. In Bengal almost all the district congress committees came to be controlled by this or that secret revolutionary organisation. They found their place in the provincial congress committee in large numbers. Their main aim at that stage was the organisation of a strong and wide base among the educated middleclass, particularly the student and youth. One of the most positive contribution made by the revolutiona ries in this period was the creation of an organised student and youth movement. This student and youth movement was very strong in Bengal and Punjab, and it had also spread to other provinces like U. P. and the Central Provinces of that time. These student and youth organisations played a prominent part in the next upsurge of the national movement in '30s. The revolutionaries also become part of the emerging leftwing in the Indian National congress.

(14) Taking advantage of the comparative relaxation of the repressive policy of the Government, the different revolutionary organisations also published their respective organs in the form of weekly journals. These journals used to propagate the ideas of complete independence and uncompromising struggle against British Imperialism. Besides that the different ideological trends which began to appear in the ranks of the revolutionaries under the impact of various factors, national as well as international, were also reflected in the pages of these journals.

(15) The search for a revolutionary ideology and revolutionary programe became all the more actute in this period. In the national arena the revolutionaries had to take note of the awakening among the mass of the peasantry under the influence of the Indian National Congress and also of the rising tide of strike struggles and the emergence of a labour movement. In the international arena the impact of the October Revolution in Russia, and the rising crescendo of national liberation struggle in Ireland, Turkey, Iran, Egypt, China and Indo-China gave rise to many new questions, There was a widening of the horizon of their outlook. It is true that every section of the revolutionaries did not react in the same manner or same degree towards the historic significance of these epoch making changes. There arose different trends and shades of opinion. Often there was sharp conflict among these trends. The changes which were taking place were doing so slowly and gradually and not always with a conscious under-standing of the implications. Under these circumstances it was inevitable that conflicting trends would develop inside the movement, inside the same organisation and even in the mind of one and the same person.

(16) On the whole the general trend was towards socialism, anti-impernialism and peoples' revolution. The ideals of social justice which was in a nebulous form in the earlier period began to crystalise into an approach towards Socialism. The imperialist character of foreign domination and exploitation to be more clearly understood. Lastly, there was growing realisation of the necessity of drawing the toiling masses into the revolution. It was being gradually realised that the victory of the freedom struggle can be ensured only by the conscious participation of the masses. These ideas were still vague and were not yet translated into practice. But compared to the earlier period this was a great improvement. The reflection of all thes trends with different and even conflicting shades of opinion in the journals published by the revolutionaries helped to prepare the growth of a fertile soil for broader outlook and ideology inside the national movement.

(17) Towards the end of the '20s, the majority of the younger section of the revolutionaries belonging to all the parties revolted against the older leadership. Their revolt was mainly directed against what they thought to be the policy of inaction and timekilling pursued by the older leadership. The latter thought of extending and consolidating the organisation in the expectation of being able to utilise the situation arising out of the next world conflagration which was bound to occur sooner or later. The revolting sections were impatient and made plans for localised insurrections, assasination of tyrannical Govt. officials, and so on. The commission of dacoities was but a natural corollary to this plan for the purpose of collecting money to procure arms. Among a large section of the younger revolutionaries,

particularly among those in U. P. and Punjab the inclination towards socialism was clearly pronounced. Yet in their case too, the immediate emphasis was on armed actions. Besides the subjective factors like romantic impetuousness and belief in spontaneity, there were strong objective factors which influenced their line of thinking. These were mainly (a) the deepening crisis of Indian economy the effects of the general world crisis being accentuated by coloial exploitation (b) the unbridled reign of terror let loose by the British Government against the national movement and particularly against the national revolutionary and working class movement (c) the vacillations and compromising manouvre of the leadership of the Indian National congress which gave rise to grave doubts as to whether a mass movement will be launched at all in the near future (d) the weakness of the leftwing in the Congress which did not possess the requisite strength to wrest the initiative from the hands of the dominant leadership (e) the absence of an alternate force capable of unifying the different steams of the national movement and inspiring them with a concrete plan of action.

(18) Under these circumstances the young revolutionaries thought it to be their duty to take up ths challenge thrown by the British Govt. and to counter the organised brutal violence of the alien Govt. by every means at their disposal. The plans of localised insurrection did not succeed except in the case of Chittagong. Spectacular cases of assasination of Govt. officials and commission of dacoities took place. The masses did not fulfil the fond hopes of the revolutionaries by spontaneously rising in in revolt. But it cannot be doubted that patriotic public opinion was thrilled and stirred by these daring deeds. Only one example will suffice. When the dead body of the martyr Jatin Das was brought from Lahore to Calcutta, in every railway station along the route there were huge crowds showering flowers on the mortal remains of the hero. Leaders of national stature carried the bier on their shoulders. Calcutta witnessed a huge mourning procession led by leaders like Subhash Chandra Bose and Jatindra Mohan Sengupta. Tagore composed a song in honour of the martyr.

(19) However, the official machinery of repression took its toll. There were largescale arrests, detentions without trial, a spate of criminal prosecutions, hangings, sentences of hard labour ranging from two to five years upto life transportation. Those who were convicted to terms of five years and above were exiled to the Cellular Jail. For the convicted prisoners left in Bengal Jails, life in prison was turned into hell. For the majority of those who were transported to the Cellular Jail, it was worse than hell. They were placed in Division III and the behaviour meted out to them was intended to condemn them to slow but sure and agonising death. But the revolutionaries fought back in 1933 with the last weapon in the hands of defenceless, prisoners, namely fast unto death. After exacting the toll of three precious lives the authorities had to yield and meet the demands of the prisoners on huhgerstrike. After winning these cencessions, which allowed them to mix among themselves and provided some opportunities for study and discussion, a new type of university in fact a revolutionary university was organised. The revolutionaries were determined to equip themselves for participation in the freedom struggle under changed circumstances after their release

from prison. They also exercised their minds as how to forge a living link with the struggle going on outside even from behind the prison bars. The result was the historic hungerstrike of 1937 on political demands. Revolutionary prisoners in other Jails and Camps inspired by this historic action joined the fast unto death in their respective places of detention. This hunger strike in fact gave a new impetus to the democratic movement outside. The whole country ralied behind the demand of the hunger-strikers which in reality became a mass movement for the repeal of repressive laws repartration of the exiled prisoners, release of political prisoners, and extension of civil liberties.

(20) Thus the revolutionary prisoners transformed the Cellular Jail from a place of suffering into an active sector of the freedom struggle. The majority of the Andaman prisoners were released only after the end of the second world war i.e. in 1945 and 1946. By that time they had spent the best years of their lives behind the prison walls. Those who were younger, were in their late thirties at the time of release. Inspite of this most of them immediately became active participants in the freedom struggle particularly in the working class and peasant movements.

GALAXY OF MARTYRS

Freedom-fighters, deported to Andamans or incarcerated in the Cellular Jail from the days of first battle of independance (1857), did never let down their cudgels even during their imprisonment. While as prisoners, they fought against all repressions and tortures that were let loose to cow them down or to crush them altogether. Their ceaseless death-defying struggles in Andamans or within the precincts of its notorious Cellular Jail culminated in scores of martyrs to whom the nation owes its deepest gratitude.—F.C.

NARAYAN

Narayan, a participant in 1857 battle for independence, hailed from Danapur, Bihar. He had a long period of conviction and was transported to Andamans along with hundreds of soldier-participants in that country-wide revolt. One day Narayan, along with 250 others, was being shifted from one island to another. The boats that carried them were strictly guarded by armed guards. Captain Walker, Superintendent of Agra Jail, was in-charge to look after safe transhipment. While the boats were plying over the waves, Narayan sought an opportunity to get rid of clutches that fettered him to be an active participant in outside struggle and jumped into the water. But Narayan could not succeed to escape the watchful eyes of the guards. The Captain at once ordered his men to shoot him down while he was struggling hard to swim across the bay bullets riddled his body and silenced all his heroic attempt.

Narayan appears to be the first known martyr among freedom-fighters deported to Andamans.

UNNAMED EIGHTY-SIX

In March 1858, the first batch of 733 freedom-fighters was transported to Andaman Islands. The plight of these prisoners were very bad and they were subjected to inhuman treatment. As a result, during March-April, 1858, two hundred and twenty-eight of them escaped from the establishment, out of which eighty-eight were recaptured and the rest remained at large. Of the captured prisoners, eighty-six were executed.

Eighty-six ! Such a big bunch of martyrs, whose fragrance around, are yet un-named, un-honoured and un-sung.

SHER ALI

Anti-British Wahavi movement of sixties, in the last century, produced a valiant hero, Sher Ali. He had a long conviction and was undergoing his terms of imprisonment with restrictions in an island in Andamans. Sher Ali took a silent vow to avenge all misdeeds done by the British rulers on Wahivis, his compatriots. On February 8, 1872, he was favoured with a chance when Lord Mayo, the Viceroy of India, was visiting Mount Herriot opposite Abardeen. Sher Ali hurried to the scene and stabbed the Viceroy to death when the party was approaching Hope-town jetty. He was arrested on the spot, tried and executed.

Martyr Sher Ali had the unrivalled honour to knock-down successfully the top-most

official of British rulers In India In its long legends of armed actions to assert India's right for independence.

SARDAR BHAN SINGH

Sardar Bhan Singh, an inhabitant of Punjab, was a prisoner of Lahore Conspiracy Case in the early years of World war 1. Inside Cellular Jail, he was a great inspiration for his heroic defiance of all arrogances of the Jail authority. One day he had an encounter with the Superintendent also, and his rebuffs to the officer's insults and abuses infuriated the 'Jail-god'. Bhan Singh was at once put in the permanent punishment cell No. 156 of No. 3 yard and was belaboured in a most brutal manner. In consequence, Bhan Singh died.

Martyr Bhan Singh was a victim of diabolic brutalities that often were perpetrated upon freedom-fighters encaged in the notorious Cellular Jail.

PANDIT RAM RAKKA

Ram Rakka a lifer was sent to Andaman Cellular Jail to serve out his sentence. When the Jail authority arrogantly interfered with his right to put on sacred thread, he protested vehmently and resorted to hunger-strike. Long three months he carried on till he breathed his last in 1919 and courted martyrdom.

MAHAVIR-MOHAN-MOHIT

Memorable mass hunger-strike of May, 1933, in Andamans, has no parallel in the annals of struggles in jails It was such an organised resistance of several scores, so determined and death defying that both the mainland and local authorities had to retreat shirking their stiff-necked arrogancy and beauracratic inflexibility.

Mahavir Singh jumped into the fray when political prisoners inside jail decided to hit back the spiteful and callous authority. On the sixth day of hunger-strike on May 17, he was attempted to be fed forcibly. Mahavir resisted the entire process with all his strength. It is reported that the entire quantity of milk along with a part of the tube was forced through his trachea creating grave disorder in lungs. He lost his sense immediately and his life ebbed out at about 1. A.M. of May 18, 1933.

Mohan Kisore Nama Das was inhabitant of Sararchar village, District Mymensingh, of East Bengal, now in Bangla Desh. He was son of a rural poor and he belonged to the scheduled caste community. In his prime of youth he joined the Anushilan Party. He was convicted for seven years in Netrokona Soarikanda Action along with many others. After joining the hunger strike he had forcible nasal feeding on May 17 and like Mahavir milk was forced into his lungs. On May 19, he was admitted to hospital for pneumonia. For seven days he struggled with life and death continuing his hunger strike unstinted. While he was offered medicine which disdainfully he refused. Mohan expired on May 26, 1933.

Mohit Moitra along with his comrades resorted to hunger-strike on May 12, 1933. He developed signs of lobar pneumonia, an effect of the rubber tube discharging milk to the windpipe instead of stomach while being forcibly fed. Mohit died on May 28,

Mohavir, Mohan and Mohit are three stalwarts whose extreme sacrifices paved the edifice for the rest of incarcerated prisoners to plan and project and build their lives in prison to march ahead.

Martyrdom courted by the ex-andaman freedom fighters after their release

HAZARA SINGH

Hazara Singh engaged himself to the cause of the exploited workers of Jamshedpur and earned universal love and respect of of all while inviting intense hatred by the factory owners.

During a strike in the factory when all other foul tactics of the owners failed to crush the strike they brought truck loads of hired workers under heavy armed police guards and tried to push through the striking workers.

Hazara Singh braved the challenge and lay down at the factory gate blocking the passage. Considering Hazara Singh to be of ordinary metal and would flee away out of fear they in actual fact drove over his body crushing him to death and immortalizing him.

LALMOHAN SEN

After long 16 years incarceration in the Cellular Jails and other Jails Lalmohan was released in 1946, during the riot period. He was pained to see the ruination caused to the national movement by the self destructive, suicidal, communal riots.

He immediately plunged himself for restoring peace and amity in the Noakhali District moving from village to village with the conviction that his supreme power of love for the countrymen would succeed in surmounting the frenzied emotion and he succeeded in his mission in many of the villages. This success infuriated the communalists and one day while he was preaching peace in Sandip he was brutally murdered within a month after his release from long incarceration.

SUSHIL DASGUPTA

He devoted himself wholeartedly to the political movement after his release in 1938. In 1947 when Calcutta was sick with continuous riots, he began to lead Peace Squads to restore peace and toleration amongst different communities of the countrymen.

One day while thus leading a Peace Squad in Park Circus area an assailant stabbed him to death immortalising his memory in the cause of communal harmony.

BIJAN SEN

He joined the Anusilan Party in Rajshahi in his school days. He was convicted to 7 years. R. I. in 1932 in the Rajshai Mail Action and was deported to Andaman.

After his release in 1937 he started an intense movement for release of all political prisoners. With the partition of the country he went to Rajshahi in East Pakistan, now Bangla Desh, and took leading part to restore democracy in East Pakistan. He was put to jail along with others and continued struggle inside the jail. One day Jail Police came in clash with the political prisoners and barbarously shot the prisoners killing Bijan Sen along with others.

INDU BHUSAN DAS

Indu Bhusan Das had his release in 1939 after long seven years in iail including a period in Andamans. He was convicted in Kamalpur Action along with others. After his release Shri Das permanently resided in his village-home at Chandagram and continued to stay there even after partition. When the Pak Army cracked down upon the inhabitants on 25th March. 1971, local police arrested him in April and he was put to army custody. Since then there is no trace of him. The butchers of Yahya have not spared this old freedom fighter.

Penal Settlement in Audamans—

Dr R. C. MAJUMDAR

(Published by the Ministry of Education and Social Welfare, Govt. of India)

Extracts from the Preface

"It may, however, be said without any hesitation that generally speaking, as a class, they the revolutionaries, represented by the inmates of the Cellular Jail were inspired by a sincere spirit of partiotism, and it is almost literally true that they lived and died for the emancipation of their motherland. The great poet Rabindra Nath has observed: "Death is the true touchstone of genuine love. The only real test of such love is whether you are prepared to die for the sake of the object of your love." It may be said without hesitation that the political prisoners in the Cellular Jail, as a class, successfully passed the supreme test. They were not only prepared, but eager, to die, and patiently bore physical and mental suffering worst than death without wavering in the least in their grim resolve to free their motherland. This is proved, among other things, by repeated hunger-strikes, even by persons in a bad state of health, inspite of piteous appeals from their parents and dear ones from distant homes to desist from the death by starvation Even when prolong fasting brought the prisoners to the death's door they refused to budge an inch and sought to prevent forced feeding by all means and artifices in their power as a result of which several prisoners were rudely assulted and three or four of them died. They did not yeild when even drinking water was with-held as a punishment and many became unconscious."

"If this book serves to remind the Indians of the great debt they owe to the political prisoners confined in the Cellular Jail, and evoke genuine sympathy for the sufferings they have undergone for the sake of their motherland, and as a result, an endeavour be made to perpetuate their memory in a suitable manner by preserving the Cellular Jail in the Andamans as a sacred place of pilgrimage, I shall regard my labour in the old age as amply compensated."

"……The Andaman Cellular Jail has a history of it own. It has a different connotation in the freedom struggle and its impact has been different. Those who have Participated in that struggle know very well what it meant to go to the Andaman Cellular Jail "

—Loke Sabha minutes dated 14. 12. 70. While discussing the necessity of adopting a decision on life Pension scheme for mainland freedom fighters which was finally given shape on in January, 1972.

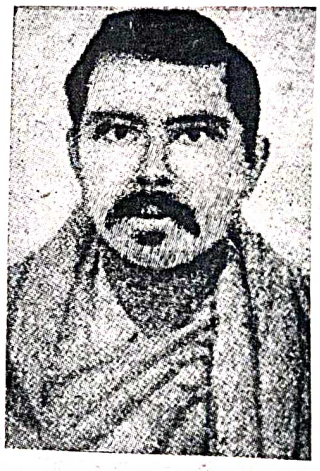
In dllineating bio-data of the revolutionary freedom fighters, incarcerated in the Cellular Jail, Andamans, their activities and actions, Prison term and sufferings have been taken into account upto the date of transference of Power i. e. 15th of August, 1947.

Alipur Bomb Case—Thirty six persons were committed to sessions court on 6. 5. 1909. In the Judgment 17 persons were released. The following persons were awarded long term imprisonment and were deported to the Andamans.

Barindra Kumar Ghosh
B. 5th July 1880. D. 18th April 1959

Croydon, England S/o Late Dr. K. D. Ghosh, Brother of Sri Arabinda Ghosh. In the Sessions Court received capital punishment. on appeal commuted by the High Court on 23. 11. 1909 to Transportation. Deported to the Andamans. Repatriated in 1920 and released from Alipur Central Jail in 1920. wrote Books on Andaman deportation days (Dipantarer Katha). was an eminent Journalist. was an editor of Dainik, Basumati for a few years.

Kaliachak, Tripura (Now Bangladesh) S/o Late Dwijadas Datta. Degree holder in Agriculture—London University was a student of Presidency College. for uttering derogatory remarks on Bengalees Ullaskar thrashed professor Russel and was expelled from the College. was an expert in the manufacture of High explosives. Arrested in Alipur Bomb Case. Sessions Court sentenced him to death. On appeal The High Court Commuted the death sentence to life transportation, deported to the Andamans. Due to brutal torture in Cellular Jail, he lost his mental balance. repatriated and released in 1920. Again arrested in 1931 for violating Cr. P.C. 144 and was awarded 18 months imprisonment by the trying Court.

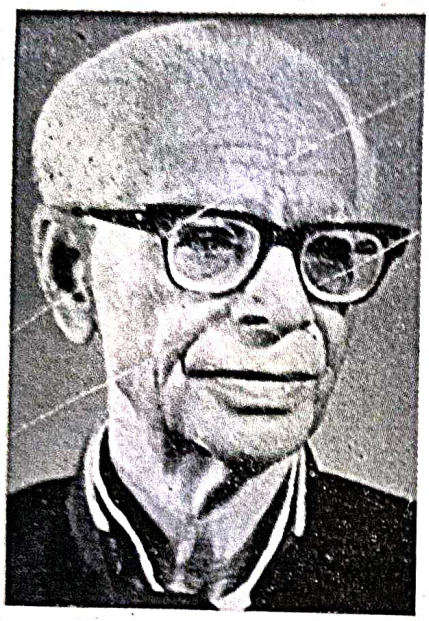


Late Ullaskar Dutta

Late Abinash Chandra Bhattacharya
Born 1882. Died 10. 5. 62

Arbelia, 24 Parganas S/o Late Umacharan Bhattacharya, Amongst the revolutionary Colleagues he was known as 'Abhida' Probably, this prompted the Poet to include in the most popular folk song "Abhiramer Dwip Chalanma Kshudiramer fansi" Deported to the Andamans. Repatriated in 1914. Remained in Rawalpinde Jail. Released in 1915. After release Joined Calcutta Municipal Gazeette. Author of many books in Bengali viz 'Rananiti' Mukte Kon pathe etc. Married before arrest. Total Jail Period 7 years. Breathed his last on 10. 5. 62.

Lahore Conspiracy Case—1929-30



Shiva Varma

Born : 9. 2. 1904. Kalauli, Hardoi, U. P. S/o Late K. L. Verma . was a student of B. Sc. Part I of D. A. V. College Kanpur. Joined H. R. A. Later re-named Hindustan Socialist Republican Army. He was a member of the Executive Committee of H.S.R.A. and organiser of U.P. Before arrest remained underground for about 18 months. Arrested on 13th May, 1929 in connection with Lahore conspiracy case. Resorted to hunger-strike in Lahore Jail during under trial Period. Sentenced to transportation for life. Deported to the Andamans. Joined the two hunger-strikes in Cellular Jail—1933 May 45 days and 1937 July 37 days. Repatriated in 1937. After release was arrested several times and remained confined in Jail till 1947.

Joydev Kapoor

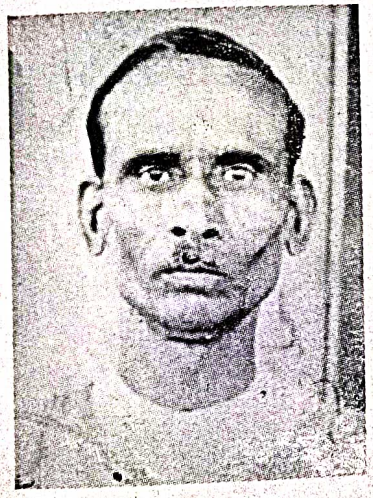
Born : 1907, Shahabad, Hardoi, U. P. S/o Late Saligram Kapur .was a student of Electrical & Mechanical Engineering B.H.U. Joined the H. R. A. at the age of 18. Before arrest remained underground for one year. Arrested at Shaharanpur in 1929 in connection with Lahore Conspiracy case. While was an under trial prisoner resorted to hunger-strike in Lahore Jail. Sentenced to transportation for life. Deported to the Andamans. Participated in the two hunger-strikes in Cellular Jail 1933 May 45 days and 1937 July 37 days. Repatriated in 1937. After release was arrested several times during the second world war.

Batukeshwar Dutta

Central Assembly Bomb Case . Kanpur, U. P. was school mate of Bejoy Kumar Sinha and Ajoy Ghosh. Joined the H. R. A. in early twenties. was intimately connected with Sachindra Nath Sanyal. He along with Bhagat Singh had thrown Bomb in the Central Assembly on 8th April 1929 to register Protest of the Patriotic Indian people against the trades Dispute Bill and both of them raised the slogan first time in India Inquilab Zindabad -Long Live Revolution. In the trial, both of them were sentenced to transportation for life. He was deported to the Andamans. Participated in two hunger-strikes in Cellular Jail, 1933 May—45 days 1937, July 37. Repatriated in 1937. After release he also had no respite from detention. Died in early Seventies.

Born at French Chandannagar. S/o Late Jadunath Banerjee. Was a student of Medical College. Married, was sentenced to life Transportation in Alipore Bomb case. Deported to the Andamans. He was a reputed Journalist and author. His book "Nirvasiter Atmakatha" vividly portrais the agonies, hardships and sufferings of prison life in Andamans. Released in 1920. After release served in the Editorial board of "Bijali, Atmasakti" etc. Again arrested under Regulation III of 1818 in 1923. Released in 1926. Became Editor of 'Dainik Basumati' a Bengali Newspaper in 1945 and remained with it till his death.

Upendranath Banerjee
Born 1879 Died 4.4. 1950



Birendra Chandra Sen
B. 14.4. 1891, D. 9.11. 1970

Born at Shilong originally of Baniachong—Sylhet now in Bangladesh, S/o Late Kailash Chandra Sen, was a College Student at the time of his arrest in Alipur Bomb case. Convicted to 7 years R. I. Repatriated in 1914 and released in 1915, but kept interned for 4 years. Arrested in 'Quit India' movement in 1942 and served 10 months' imprisonment.

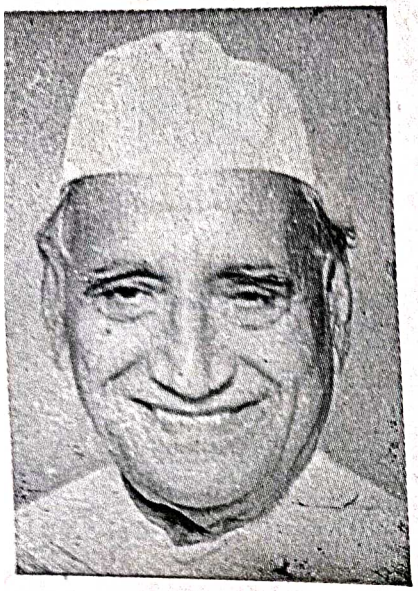
Breathed his last at Aurobinda Ashram in Pondicherry, Hem Sen and Martyer Sushil Sen was his brothers.

In Alipur Bomb case was convicted to 10 years R. I. Previously hurled Bomb at M. Tardival, Mayor of Chandannagar, Narendra Goswami was his Companion. Narendra Bandyopadhya of Chandannagar organised this action.

Brutal and sadistic torture in the Cellular Jail made him a mental and Physical wreck. In desperation he committed suicide on 29. 4. 1912. in Jail-there.

Indubhusan Roy

Alipur Bomb Case

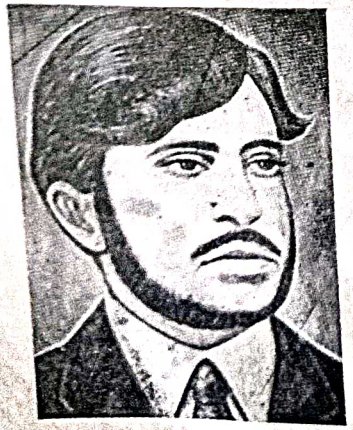


Babu Prithvi Singh Azad
B. September 15th, 1892

At village Labru—Patiala-Punjab. One of the founder member of the Gaddar party. Sentenced to death in first Lahore Conspiracy Case 1915.—Afterwards commuted to life imprisonment. Deported to the Cellular Jail—Andaman Islands. Repatriated to mainland and while on transit to Nagpur Central Jail escaped from Police custody from a running Mail Train—29-11-22. Thenceforth led an underground life for sixteen years. In 1938, he voluntarily surrendered to Mahatma Gandhi. But was again arrested by the British Governmemt. But was released with the outbreak of the second world-war (1939).

S/o Late Nihal Singh—vill Marhana-Amritsar. Joined Gaddar Party. Arrested in connection with Lahore Conspiracy Case. Sentenced to Life imprisonment. Deported to the Cellular Jail, Andaman Islands. Breathed his last in 1920 in Cellular Jail.

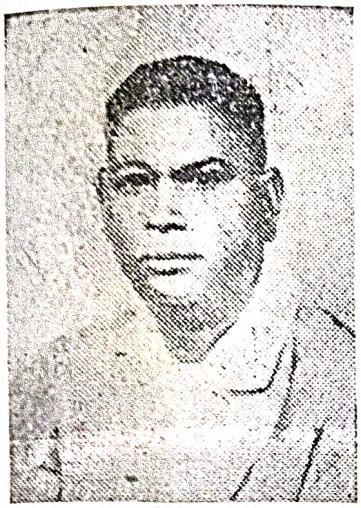
Ke har Singh



Pundit Jagatram
(1909-1921)

Was an active member of Gaddar Party and was one of the editors of the Gaddar Party Organ 'Gaddar'. Arrested in 1914. Sentenced to death in the first Lahore Conspiracy Case. Later commuted to Transportation for life. Deported to the Cellular Jail—Andaman Islands.

'Swarajya' an Urdu weekly started publishing from 9th November, 1907. It lasted from 1907 to 1910. 'Swarajya' became the torch bearer of revolutionary awakening in U. P. for details see the article—Swarajya, the newspaper that inspired Freedom movement in U.P.—Contained herein. Of the editors, the following were sentenced to various terms of imprisonment and were deported to the Andamans.

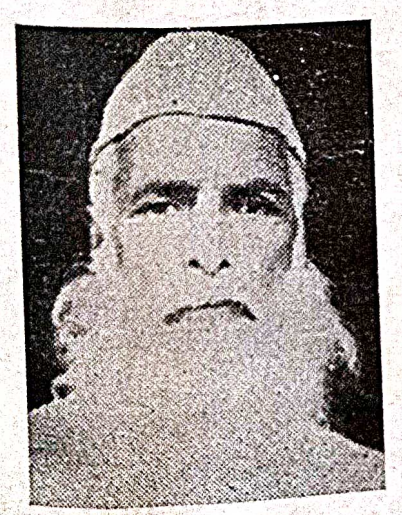


Hotilal Varma

Arrested under section 124A and sentenced to a total of 10 years transportation on two counts. Deported to the Andamans.

He could edit only two issues of Swarajya. Arrested and produced before a Sessions Judge, who sentenced him to transportation to an aggregate term of 21 years on different Counts. Deported to the Andamans.

Babu Ram Hari



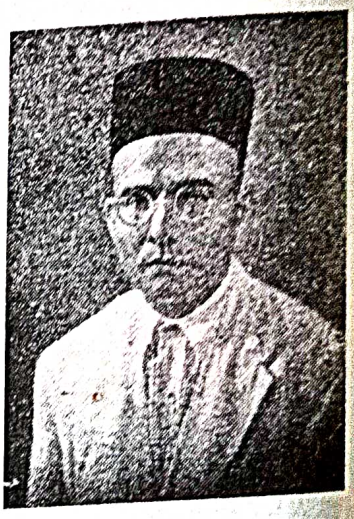
Shri Nand Gopal Chopra

He was an editor of weekly 'Inquilab' Lahore. S/o Bulaki Ram. He had got already a sentence of 5 years R. I. at Lahore for writing seditious articles. While he was enlarged on bail, He took up Publication of Swarajya. He could manage to edit nearly a dozen issues of 'Swarajya'. Arrested and sentenced to transportation on three different counts to an aggregate term of 30 years. Deported to the Andamans.

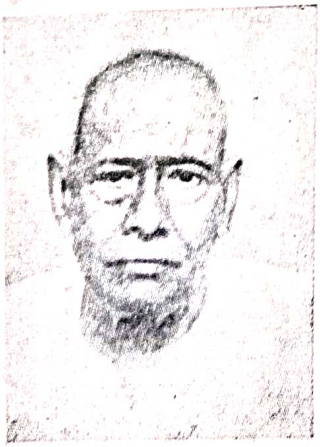
Bibhutibhusan Sarker

Bankura. was present at the time of exploding the first Bomb at Deoghar in 1908. Prafulla Chakraborty S/o Late Ishan Chakraborty died and Ullaskar Datta became wounded. Also Present Barindra Kumar Ghosh and Nalini K. Gupta at the explosion site. He was convicted to 10 years, R. I. in the Alipore Bomb Case. Deported to the Cellular Jail Andamans. Repatriated by September 1914.

Nasik Conspiracy Case : G.D. Savarker was sentenced to life term by Justice Jackson of Nasik Court for writing a seditious book in 1909. Justice Jackson was shot dead at Nasik on 21. 12. 1909 for the farcical Judgment awarded by him. Thus Nasik conspiracy case began on 23. 1. 11. G.D. Savarker, N. D. Savarker and Daji Narayan Joshi were awarded life—transportation. V. D. Savarker was arrested in England on the execuse that the pistol used was sent by him. while he was being transported on board a ship to India, V.D. Savarker Jumped from the ship to escape at Marseilles Port-France. French Police captured him and made him over to the British. This happend on 13. 3. 10.
Deported to Cellular Jail, Andamans.



Late B. D. Savarker



Kshitish Chandra Sanyal

Born 1889. At Chapra—Kustia (Now Bangladesh) S/o Late Girish Chandra Sanyal—Pleader. While a College Student, Joined the revolutionary Party in 1908. He actively Participated in the anti Partition movement of Bengal in 1905-07. In 1915 March, was arrested under Defence of India Act from a Mess in Hartakibagan Lane. Subsequently made an accessed in the Nadia Conspiracy Case. Judgement given on 15th August 1915. He was sentenced to 10 years' Transportation. One Sri Narendranath Chakraborty was discharged from the case and released. Other three convicted revolutionaries are : Ashutosh Lahiri, Phanibhusan Roy and Gopendralal Roy. Deported to Andamans on 13th September 1915. Repatriated in 1919, February. Lodged in Sabarmati Jail—Gujrat. Released on 8th September—1922. Breathed his last on 27-1-1969.

Nanigopal Mukhopadhaya

Born—1893, Kamarpara, Chinsurah, Hooghly. Arrested in connection with Dalhousie Square Bomb Case. Action on 2. 3. 11. Judgment delivered on 27. 3. 11. Awarded 14 years imprisonment. Deported to the Andamans.

After release he actively participated in the labour movement. He was externed from the steel town of Jamshedpur for this activity. Latter on worked in the Hooghly working class area. Breathed his last on 21. 4. 1944.

Naren Ghosh Chowdhury

Came in contact with Revolutionary Party, Particularly of Swami Pragyananda while he was a school student.

Arrested in connection with Shibpur (Nadia) action—30. 9. 15. Place Shibpur P. S. Kotwali, Nadia.

Sentenced to life term. Deported to the Andamans. After repatriation and release again detained behind prison bars for many years.

It is to be noted that the boat used by the revolutionaries in this action was kept as a memento at the Krishnanagar Court Compound. It was there in the recent Past. May be it is still there. He is living no more.

13

Late Satya Ranjan Bose

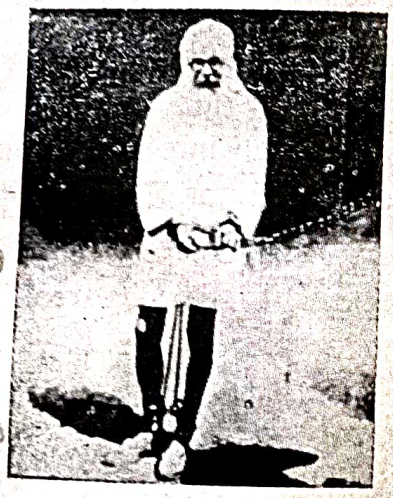
Born—1889. Village Karapore. P.O. Kashipore. Dist. Barisal (Bangladesh, S/o Late Sonakanta Bose. Arrested in Connection with Shibpur (Nadia) action—30.9.15. Place Shibpur, P.S. Kotwali, Nadia. A student of B.A. class. Joined Anushilan Samity Judgment given on 16. 2. 16. Sentenced to life term. Deported to the Andamans. Repatriated in 1921. Released in 1925/26.

It is to be noted that the boat used by the revolutionaries in this action was kept as a memento at the Krishnanagar Court Compound. It was there in the recent Past. May be it is still there. He is living no more

Ladha Ram Kapur

Took up editorship of 'Swarajya'. Hails from Varaichannalain in the district of Gujrat, Punjab (Now Pakistan). He was Prosecuted for three articles Published in 'Swarajya'. The trying Judge in his Judgment inter-alia remarks', The Court finds the accused Ladha Ram, guilty on all three counts of three offences Punishable under Section 124A of the I.P.C. and sentenced him to transportation for ten years for each one of the three offences." Total 30 years. Deported to the Andamans. Ladha Ram Kapur breathed his last on the 5th January—1966 in a Colony of New-Delhi.

Born at Village haltoon, Dist. Ludhiana, Punjab. S/o. S. Hasak Singh. Returned to India on board the ship 'Kamagatanaru' and was arrested at Budge Budge—24 Parganas, West Bengal in 1914. Sentenced to the transportation for life. Deported to the Andamans. After repatriation, while being transferred, escaped from runnig train in 1922. Went to Russia via Afganistan. Came back to India and was again arrested and transported to the Andamans. Participated in the second hunger-strike there in Cellular Jail, 1937 July. Repatriated in November 1937. Released in 1945. Breathed his last in the late seventies.



Sardar Gurmukh Singh

Late Nikhil Guha Roy

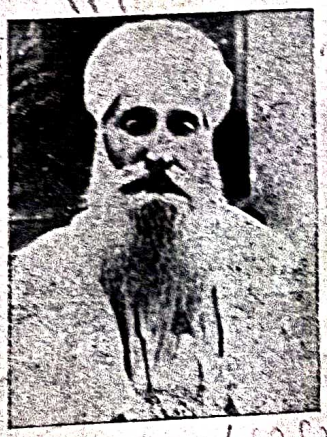
Faridpur (New Bangladesh) Arrested in Connection with Shibpur (Nadia) Action 1915. Sentenced to transportation for life. Deported to the Andamans. Repatriated and released in early twenties. Participated in the Non-Co-operation movement. Again arrested in connection with Kandi Bomb Case. Murshidabad West Bengal and convicted, deported to the Andamans again—1933. Repatriated in 1937. Released in 1945. Breathed his last in early seventies.

GADAR HEROES

Gadar Party was formed in 1914 at Sanfransisco (U.S.A.). Took this name after its weekly mouthpiece 'GADAR' (Revolt). Many actions took place under its leadership in India and in British overseas Colonies in S.E. Asia—Burma—Malayasia—Singapore, even in Syam now Thailand. Thousands were arrested. At least 145 freedom fighters were hanged 305 such fighters were sentenced to life transportation. Below are mentioned a number of 'Gadar' heroes who were deported to the Cellular Jail—Andamans.

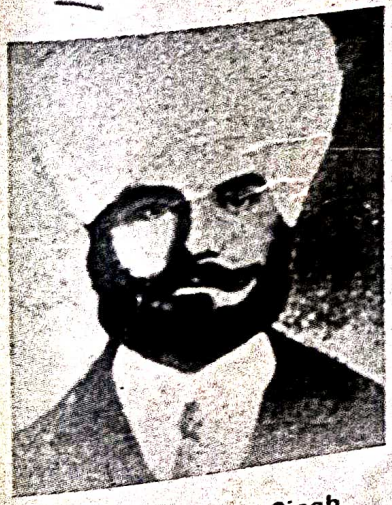
Bhai Bhan Singh

Bhan Singh born at Suner, Ludhiana, Punjab S/o Sarran Singh. Sentenced to transportation for life in Lahore Conspiracy Case—Judgment given on 13. 9. 1915. Deported to the Andamans. He was beaten to death by prison stuff in mad fury and last for revenge, for their having dared to attempt the overthrow of the British rule.



Baba Hardit Singh Lamba.

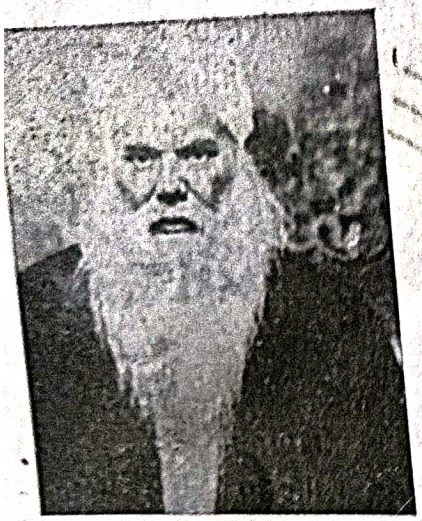
Sentenced to transportation for life in Lahore Conspiracy Case. Deported to the Cellular Jail, Andamans.



Baba Mangal Singh

S/o Surmukh Singh. Lalpura, Amritsar. Sentenced to Death—Later on Commuted. Deported to the Andamans. Breathed his last in Cellular Jail, Andamans.

Lahore Conspiracy Case—1915

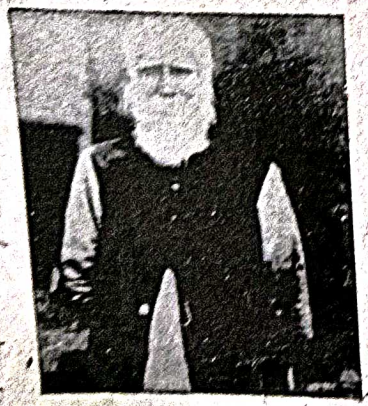


Baba Wasakha Singh

S/o Mihan Singh, Gilwali, Amritsar. Awarded death Sentence. Commuted to transportation for life. Deported to the Andamans.

Born in January, 1870 at village Bhakna, Dist. Amritsar. S/o Sakaram Singh, founder President 'GADAR' Party. Sentenced to death. Later on Commuted to transportation for life. Deported to the Andamans, Died in 1968.

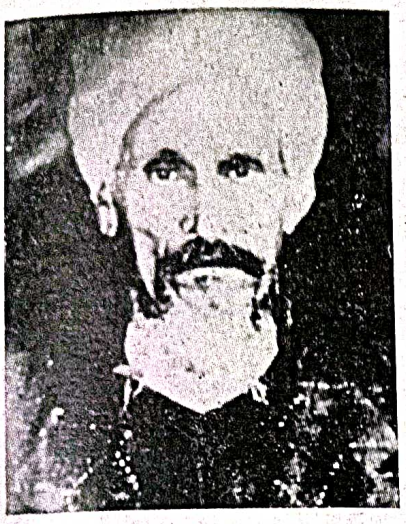
Baba Sohan Singh Bhakna



Baba Harnam Singh

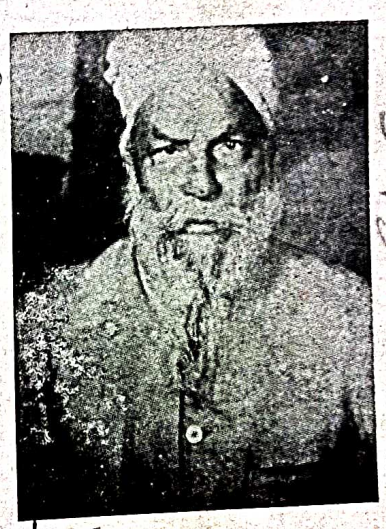
S/o Gurdit Singh of Kotla Nand Singh, Dist. Hoshiarpur—Punjab. Sentenced to death. Later Commuted to transportation for life. Deported to the Cellular Jail, Andamans.

Lahore Conspiracy Case—1915



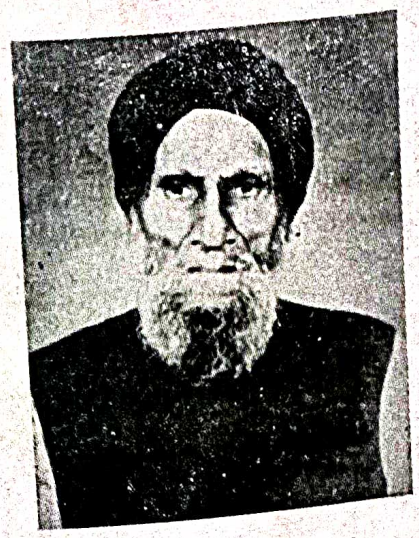
Baba Lal Singh

S/o Udhey Singh. Narangwal, Ludhiana. Supplementary Lahore Conspiracy Case No. 1. Judgment delivered on 30. 3. 16. Sentenced to transportation for life. Deported to the Andamans.



Baba Hazara Singh

S/o Bela Singh. Dadher, Amritsar. Sentenced to transportation for life. Deported to the Andamans.



Bhai Piara Singhji Lageri

S/o Lekha Singh Langer, Hoshiarpur. Sentenced to transportation for life. Deported to the Andamans.

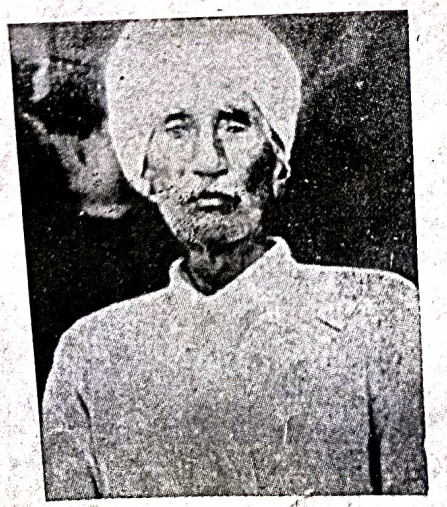
Lahore Conspiracy Case 1915

Udham Singh Kasel

S/o Mewa Singh, Kassel, Amritsar. Sentenced to transportation for life. Deported to the Andamans.

Master Raja Ram

Sentenced to transportation for life. Deported to the Andamans.



Chait Ram

Sentenced to transportation for life. Deported to the Andamans.

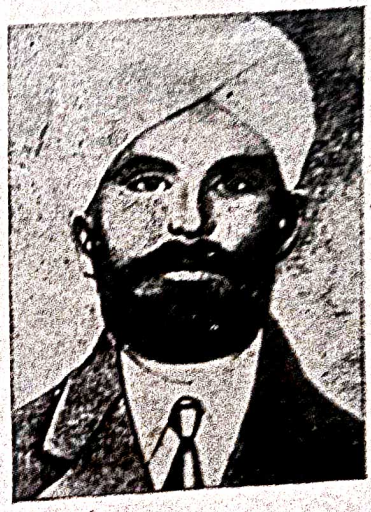
(99)

Lahore Conspiracy Case–1915

Baba Amor Singh

Sentenced to transportation for life. Deported to the Andamans.

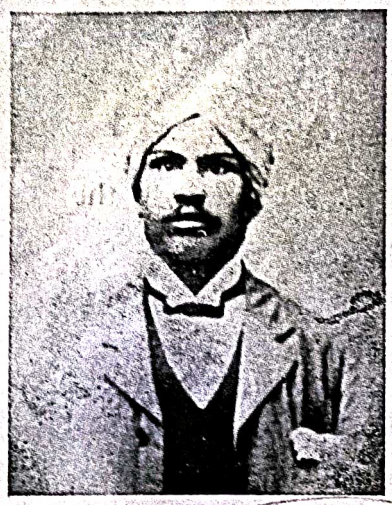
S/o Uttam Singh, Sursingh Lahore. Sentenced to transportation for life. Deported to the Andamans.



Gewan Singh Marhana

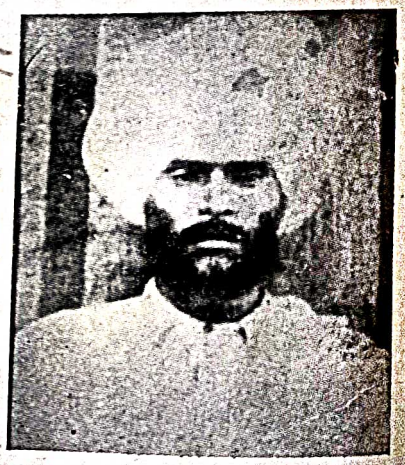
S/o Gulab Singh. Amritsar. Sentenced to death. Later Commuted to life transportation. Deported to the Andamans.

Lahore Conspiracy Case—1915



Ram Saran Das

S/o Sant Ram. Kapurtala State. Sentenced to death. Later Commuted. Deported to the Andaman Islands.



Lal Singh Sebada

S/o Mehan Singh. Bhure, Amritsar. Sentenced to death. Later Commuted. Deported to the Andamans.

Bhai Chuher Singh

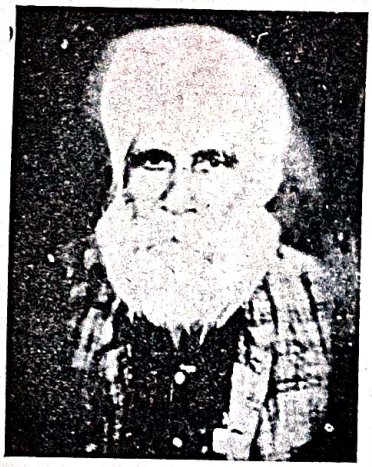
S/o Buta Singh. Lilan, Ludhiana. Sentenced to transportation for life. Deported to the Andamans.

Lahore Conspiracy Case 1915

Sant Harandev Singh

Sentenced to transportation for life. Deported to the Andamans.

S/o Mohan Singh. Narangwal, Ludhiana. Born 1900. Sentenced to transportation for life. Deported to the Andamans. Breathed his last on 16. 11. 81.

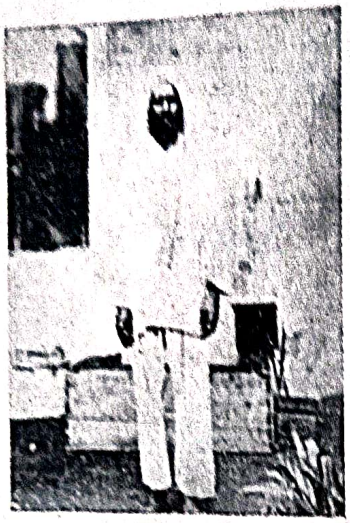


Gyani Sajjan Singh

Baba ~~Nandan~~ Singh

S/o Sundar Singh. Chugha Firozepur. Sentenced to death. Later Commuted to transportation for life. Deported to the Andamans.

Lahore Conspiracy Case—1915

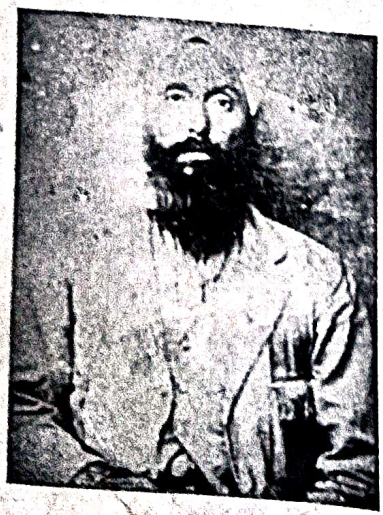


Baba Madan Singh

S/o Mal Singh. Gaga, Lahore. Sentenced to transportation for life. Deported to the Andamans.

Baba Mansha Singh

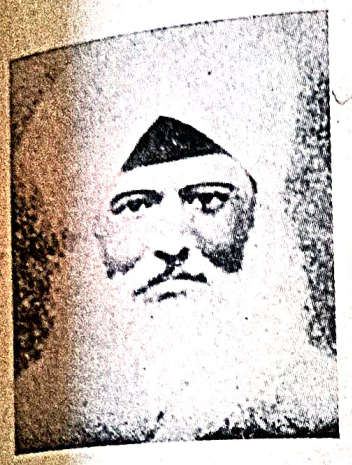
Sentenced to transportation for life. Deported to the Andamans.



Baba Bishen Singh

S/o Kesar Singh. Dadher, Amritsar. Sentenced to transportation for life.

Lahore Conspiracy Case—1915



Baba Gurdit Singh

S/o Gurumukh Singh, village Sursingh—Lahore (Now Pakistan). Sentenced to transportation to life. Deported Andamans.

S/o Kanhya Singh, Thattian, Amritsar, Punjab. For defying undignified and revengeful attitude of the Prison authorities, he was flogged while his trial was going on in Connection with Lahore Conspiracy Case. Sentenced to transportation for life. Deported to the Andaman Islands.

Baba Jawala Singh

Bhai Amar Singh Nandbol

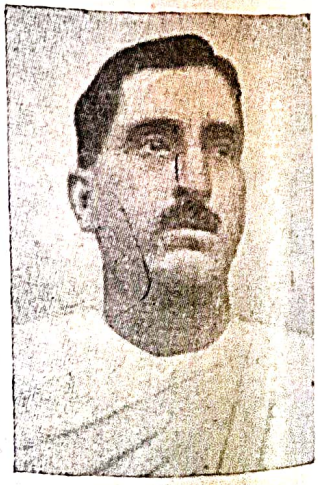
Deported to the Andamans. Sentenced to life transportation.

Gopendralal Roy

On 30. 4. 1915 a group of revolutionary freedom fighters came by boat to Pragpur – Khalispur (Nadia) and collected funds from a shop. The Police Pursued them and there was hot exchange of fires in which Sushil Sen of Sylhet, who was flogged by the illfamed Magistrate Kingsford died a hero's death. Police could arrest none on the spot. Afterwards several persons were arrested and sent up for trial. The accused persons were awarded different terms of imprisonment on 15. 8. 15. of them four—1) Asutosh Lahiri —10 years, 2) Phanibhusan Roy—10 years, 3) Khitish Sanyal –10 years and 4) Gopendra Lal Roy to 8 years, were deported to the Andamans.

Gopendralal Roy was born in 1887 at Udhunia in Pabna district (Now Bangladesh) S/o Late Brajendralal Roy. Was a Graduate from Rajshahi College. Married before arrest. Repatriated and released in 1922. Again arrested after Tegart shooting Action. Gopinath Shaha was arrested in this case and was sentenced to death. He was Released in 1927. Joined Congress and became a member of the A. I. C. C. Breathed his last on 29. 1. 66.

Born : 1888 Deogachhi, Dist. Dacca. (Now Bangladesh). S/o Late Kalicharan Hazra Amritlal was known amongst the revolutionaries as Sasanka Sekhar Hazra. In under ground days he assumed the name of Kalipada Basu. At the age 19 Joined Anushilan Samity. Took part in the famous Bahra Action in which Maharaj Troilakya Chakraborty took a leading part—June 1908. Police chased the revolutionary fighters continuously for four days. But could not apprehend them. A reward of Rs. 500/- for Amritlal's arrest was declared by the Govt. He was an expert in bomb making and could make high powered bombs. Arrested in November, 1913. A case was framed against him and Dineshchandra Dasgupta, Chandrasekher De, Saradacharan Guha, Kalipada Ghosh and Khagendrachandra Chowdhury styling Rajabazar bomb case. Amritalal Hazra was sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment in Sessions Court on 9. 6. 14. Commuted to 7 years R. I. by the High Court on 25. 2. 15. Deported to the Andamans. Repatriated in 1921 and released. Again detained in the late twenties. He is living no more.



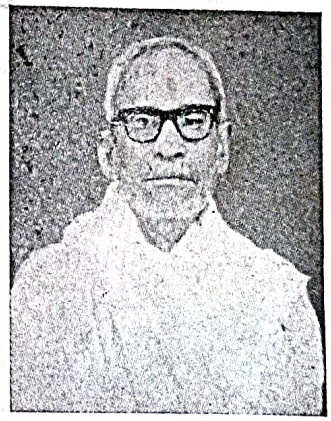
Amritalal Hazra

Sovabazar Conspiracy, Dakshineswar Bom Case and Bhupen Chatterjee, Special Superintendent, intelligent Branch, Calcutta, assacination case. Ananta Hari Mitra and Promode anjan Chowdhury died a martyrs death on the gallows in this assacination Case.

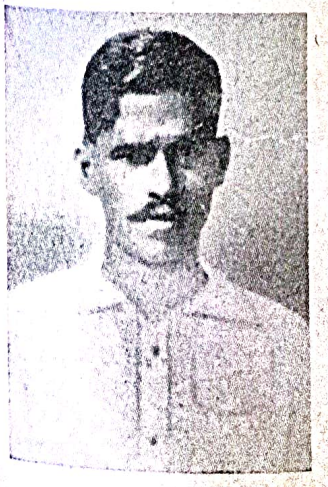
Late Ananta Chakraborty (Bhola Da)

Born 6th April 1901. S/o Late Chandramani Chakravarty. P. O. Vill. Rakudia Barisal. (Now in Bangladesh). Recruited to 'Yugantar Party' while he was a boy of fourteen only. Known to Sachindranath Sanyal and Jatin Das. Arrested in November 1925 in connection with the Conspiracy and Bomb Case. Sentenced to 7 years' R.I. in this Case. Subsequently in Bhupen Chatterjee killing incident within Alipur Central Jail—(28. 5. 26.) he was made an accused and awarded by special Tribunal life transportation. First he was sent to Burma Jail and from there deported to Cellular Jail, Andamans 1933. Joined the two hunger-strikes there 1933 and 1937, 45 days and 37 days respectively. Repatriated and released in 1938. Total Jail period more than 13 years.

Born 1901, P. O. Village, Kharanduip, Chittagong. S/o Late Sarat Chandra Dey. Joined 'Yugantar' Party in 1916-18 Had closed connection Masterda Surya Sen. Arrested in 1925 in connection with Dakshineswar Bomb Case and sentenced to 7 years' R. I. Later on was made an accused in the Bhupen Chatterjee assacination Case and was sentenced to transportation for life. Deported to the Cellular Jail, Andamans. First arrested in Chittagong Railway Action Case in 1918 or there about Repatriated and released in 1938. Total Jail Period about 14 years.



Shri Rakhal Chandra Dey



Dhrubesh Chatterjee

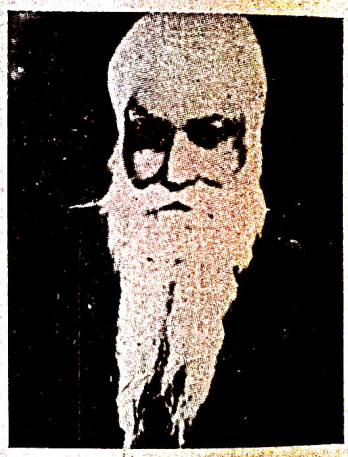
Born—December 1904 at Uttarpara, Hooghly. Arrested in Connection with the aforesaid two Cases. Sentenced to transportation for life. First sent to Burma Jail. From there deported to the Cellular Jail Andamans. Participated in the first hunger-strike there—1933 May 45 days. Repatriated and released in 1937 on medical grounds. Breathed his last in 1938. Total Jail Period—Twelve years.

Lahore Conspiracy Case 1915

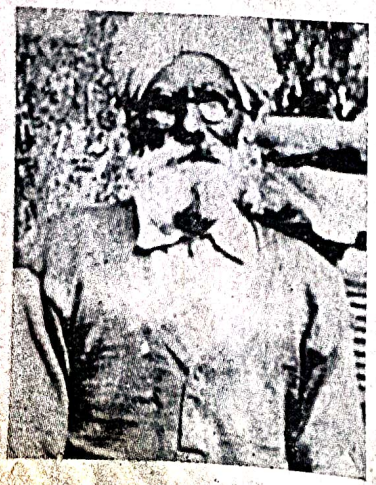
Baba Kesher Singh

S/o Bhup Singh, Amritsar. Baba Keshar Singh was Vice-President of 'GADAR' Party Sentenced to death. Commuted to life transportation. Deported to the Andamans.

S/o Kesar Singh. waipoin, Amritsar. Sentenced to transportation for life. Deported to the Andamans.



Baba Sher Singh



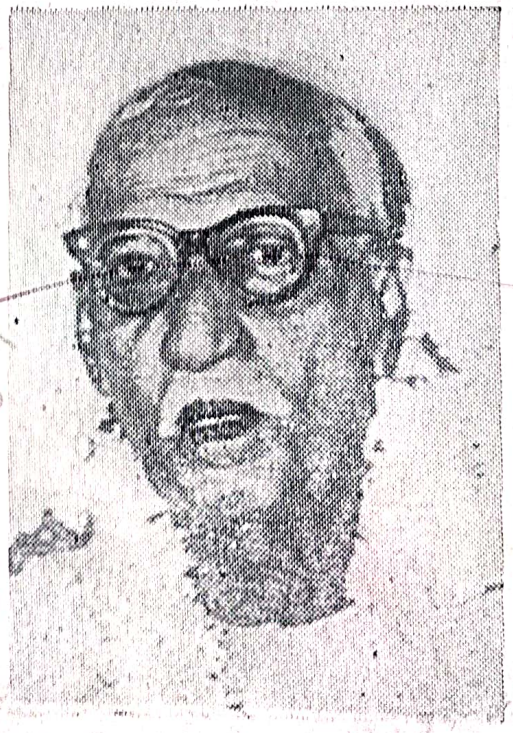
Baba Shiv Singh

S/o Munshi, Kotla, Dist. Hoshiarpur. Sentenced to life transportation. Deported to the Andamans.

Late Pulin Dass
(B. 1877. D. 1949)

Learnt 'Lathi' & Sword Play from a Turkish Ustad Murtaja. Attained Proficiency in both the Play, for his untiring effort 'Lathi' & Sword Play gained Popularity in Bengal and hundreds of Gymna-sium were founded where the youngmen were trained in both the Play. was one of the top ranking leader of Anushilan Samity. Arrested in connection with Dacca Conspiracy and Judgment delivered on 2. 4. 1912. Convicted to 7 years. R. I. Deported to the Andamans.

pularly known as 'Maharaj' first arrested in 1908 and nvicted to 6 months imprisonment. Again arrested in 12 but was set free within a fortnight. In 1914 in nnection with Barisal Conspiracy Case. Three revolu-nary freedom fighters were Sentenced in the Case. her two are Madan Bhowmick and Khagendra Narayan owdhury. Trollakya Chakraborty was sentenced to 15 ars R. I. Deported to the Andamans. Repatriated in 21 and released in 1922. Detained without trial from 24—1928. Again detained from 1930 April to 1938. ring the second world war 1939-45 he was again put hind the prisonbars and was set free in 1946. He was ociated with Congress Socialist Party after 1938. was e of the front line leaders of Anushilan Samity. 'After pendence he remained in Mymansingh—his home dis-t. Got elected in East Pakistan Assembly (Now Bang-esh). Come to India on a good will mission in 1971 breathed his last on 9th August—1971 in Delhi—sed 30 years in Jail.



Late Trollakya Chakraborty (Maharaj)

Jyotishchandra Paul

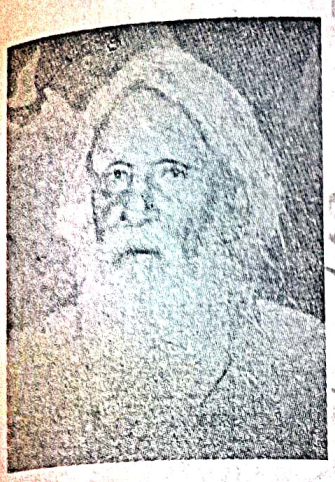
There occured an open encounter with Government armed forces and the revolutionary freedom fighters under the leadership of Jatin Mukherjee—popularly known as 'Bagha' Jatin on 9th September 1915 near the river Burra Balang in Balasore, Orissa. Chittapriya Raichowdhury died on the spot. 'Bhaga' Jatin and Jyotish Paul were fala by wound ded Jyotish Paul, though came round, 'Bhaga' Jatin succkmed to the grievious wounds on 10th September 1915. In the subsequent trial Nirendra Das Gupta and Monoranjan Sen Gupta were sentenced to death. Jyotish Paul was awarded 14 years' transportation. Deported to the Andamans. In confinement in the Cellular Jail Jyotish Paul developed signs of insanity. Repatriated and kept in Berhampur Jail. There he showed signs of recovery. But very shortly his condition turned serious and breathed his last on December 4th, 1924 under suspicious circumstances in the Berhampur Jail.

Aswinikumar Basu

Born—1882, Basudia, Abhaynagar, Jessore (Now Bangladesh) S/o Late Kalipada Basu. Passed the entrance examination and was married placed on trial in the Khulna Conspiracy Case on 2.6. 1910. Sentenced to 7 years' transportation. Deported to the Andamans. Repatriated by September, 1914. After the completion of the prison term was kept in detention at Kharba Detention camp at Maldah. Released in 1926. Breathed his last on 31.1. 76.

Late Bidhubhusan Dey, 1908-21

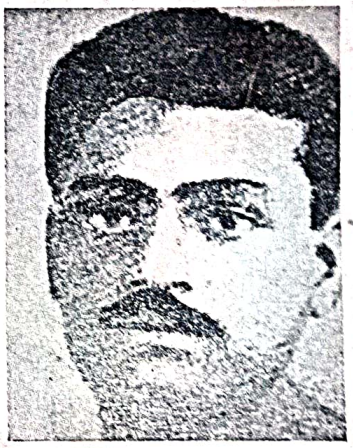
Arrested in connection with Khulna Conspiracy Case. Placed on trial with other twelve revolutionary fighters. Sentenced to 7 years' transportation. Repatriated by September—1914 He is living no more.



Pundit Paramanand (Jhansi)
(1909—1921)

Connected with Gaddar Party while in Singapore. Had contact with the 5th Mahammadan platoon and the 35th Sikh regiment there. Enthused them to rise in revolt against the British Raj. Authorities there started enquiries to nab him. He went underground and came back to India. Arrested at Lahore in 1915. Sentenced to death in the first Lahore Conspiracy Case. Subsequently commuted to life imprisonment. Deported to the Cellular Jail, Andaman Islands. For thrashing superintendent of Cellular Jail—The Sadist Bari, he was flogged. Repatriated and released in 1922. Participated in the civil disobidience movement 1931 and quit India movement 1942 suffered various terms of imprisonment.

In varanasi S/o Late Harinath Sanyal. Joined Anushilan Samity in 1907. Arrested in 1914. Made an accused in the Benaras Conspiracity Case. Sentenced to Transportation for life. Their residential house was confiscated by the British Government. Deported to Cellular Jail, Andaman Islands. Released in 1920. One of the founder member of the Hindustan Republican Association—1924. Arrested on 25. 2. 25. in Calcutta in connection with Kakori Train Action—awarded life Sentence. While imprison fell a victim to Tuberculosis disease and was released in 1937. Again arrested in 1941. being a T. B. Patient he was released shortly from captivity and was interned in Gorakhpur (U. P.). In internment he breathed his last on 7th February 1942.

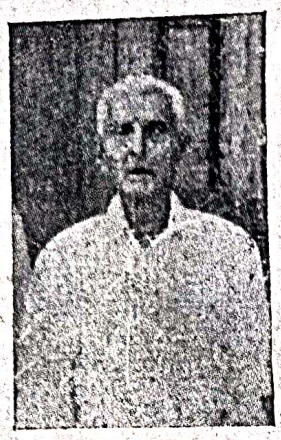


Sachindranath Sanyal
B. 1893 D. 7.2. 42

Pandit Ramraksha
(1909 1921)

Born at Hoshiarpur (Punjab). Was the Principal accused in Mandalay (Burma) Conspiracy Case. Sentenced to Transportation for life. Deported to the Cellular Jail—Andaman Islands.

Breathed his last in 1919 while he was on hunger-strike in protest against the high handed measures adopted by Jail—authorities in respect of the freedom fighters incarcerated there in and particularly to him by not allowing him to wear his sacred thread.

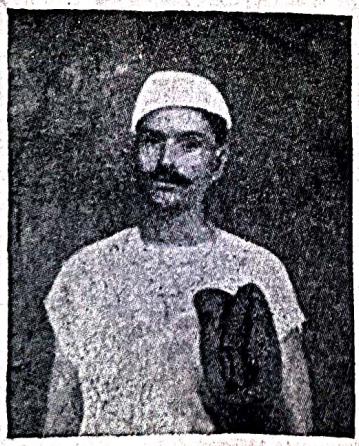


Sudhirchandra De

Born—1888. Fultola Alaka, Khulna. (Now Bangladesh) Joined Anushilan Samity when he was a student of Vidyasagar College in first Arts (F.A.) in 1905. He was entrusted with building up the 'Anushilan' Samity in his district and home area. While was a student of B.A. class, he was arrested in October 1909. Placed on trial in Khulna Conspiracy Case. Convicted to 5 years' transportation—30. 8. 1910. Deported to the Andamans. Repatriated in September 1914. After repatriation was kept in Jallundhar Jail Punjab. Released by 1915. He is living no more.

Born 1890 in a Peasant family—Vishakhapatnam Dst. Present Andhrapradesh. One of the devoted and trusted warriors of the Rumpa Peasant war, 1922-24. Alluri Sitarama Raju, the guide leader and supreme commander of the Rumpa Peasant war, visited their village one day and appealed the villagers to join the fight against the British Raj. Bonangi Pandu Padal along with many villagers joined the Peasant army. Became one of the trusted lieutenant of Alluri Sitarama Raju. The Government declared heavy reward for his head. Arrested after shooting down to death of Sitarama Raju by the British Military officer Major Good-all Placed on trial and sentenced to transportation for life along with several other Peasant warriors. Deported to the Andamans. After release settled down in the Andamans. Breathed his last in 1974.

Bonangi Pandu Padal

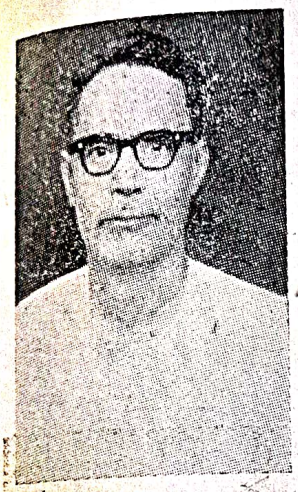


Madan Bhowmik

First arrested in 1912 and was kept confined in Dacca Jail for several months. Two years later again arrested in 1914. Placed on trial in the Barisal Conspiracy Case in January 1915, along with Troilakya Chakraborty and Khagendranath Chowdhury. Sentenced to 10 years' transportation. Deported to the Andamans. Repatriated in 1920. Released on 13th August, 1924, from Dacca Central Jail. He is living no more.

Chittagong Armoury Raid Case : Trial by Special Tribunal

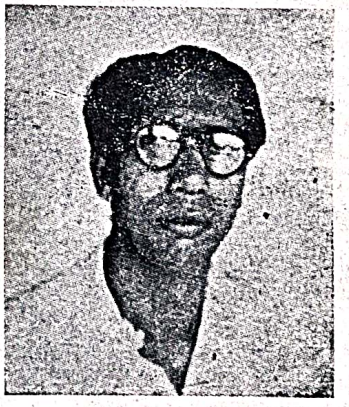
began denovo with 35 accused. Judgment given on 1-3-31. The following were sentenced to life imprisonment and deported to Cellular Jail—Andamans. Date of Action : 18-4-30.



Ganesh Ghosh
born 1900

Binodpur, Magura, Jessore. S/o Late Bepin Bihari Ghosh —A Railway Employee-gave up service in the Non-Co-operation Movement (1921) opened cloth shop in Chittagong Town. Third Year Eng. Student.—(National Education Society) Joined Masterda Surya Sen's Party during this period. Detained in 1924 under ordinance. One of the Chief leaders of Armoury Raid. Arrested at Chandannagar on 1-9-30 along with Loknath Ball, Annanda Gupta, Makhan Ghosal died a hero's death in encounter with police there. Joined the 2nd hunger strike in Cellular Jail and another one in Alipur Central Jail in 1937 & 1939 July respectively —duration 37 & 36 Days. Released August 31st 1946. Tolal Jail period 20 years. Repatriated in 1938 January.

Nandankanan, Chittagong S/o Late Golap Singh. Joined Masterda's Party in 1918. Took Part in Assam Railway Action in 1923. Govt. could not prove case against him. Arrested under ordinance in 1924 & 1926. One of the Chief leaders of Armoury Raid. Voluntarily met the I. B. officer at Lord Sinha Road, Calcutta and surrendered to them. Joined the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail and another one in Alipur Jail—1937 & 1939 July duration—37 & 36 days—Repatriated 1938 January. Released—31st August 1946. Total Jail period—20 years.



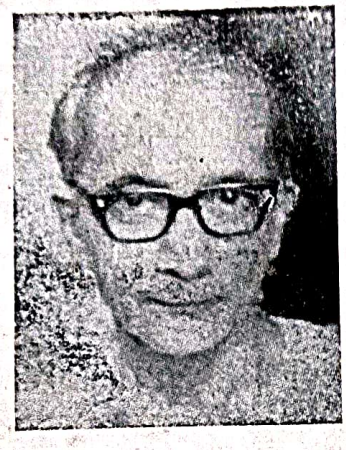
Anantalal Singha
born 1902. died 1979.

Loknath Ball
born 1907. died 9. 10. 64

Dharla, Boalkhali, Chittagong S/o Late Prankrishna Ball. Student and youth leader. A Graduate. One of the Chief Leaders of Armoury Raid and Commander of Jalalabad battle with Military Forces (22-4-30) Arrested in 1926 under ordinance. Joined the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail and another one in Alipur Central Jail—1937 & 1939 July—duration 37 & 36 days. Repatriated—1938—January. Released—31st August 1946—Total Jail period—18 years.

REFERENCE BOOK

Chittagong Armoury Raid case. Trial by special tribunal began denovo with 35 accused. Judgment given on 1. 3. 31. The following were sentenced to life imprisonment. Deported to Cellular Jail—Andamans. Date of Action—18. 4. 30.



Subodh Roy

Chittagong S/o Late Ratulkumar Roy—Pleader. Participated in the assault on the Armoury Raid and fought a pitched battle with the Army on the Jalalabad hill—22. 11. 30.

Joined the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail—July 1937 duration 37 days repatriated—1938 January. Released: 1938 May, Total Jail Period : 8 years.

.Ranaghat, Nadia. S/o Late Ashutosh Das businessman Participated in the assault on the Armoury and fought a pitched battle with the Army on Jalalabad hill. Arrested 24. 4. 30. Took Part in the 1st and Second hunger-strike in Cellular Jail and another one in Alipur Jail in July 1939. Duration 45, 37 & 36 days. Repatriated in 1938 January. Released Augusr 31st, 1946. Total Jajl Period—More than 16 years.

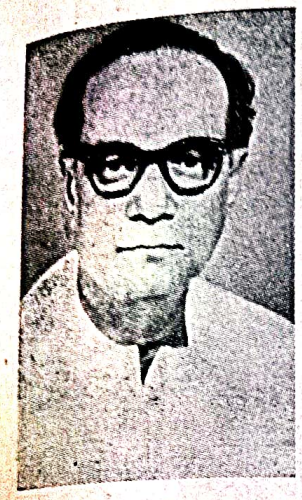
Shri Sahayram Das
Born 1913 1st. December

Sukhendu Dastidar
Died in Bangladesh in 1979

Chittagong : S/o Late Chandra Kanta Dastidar Participated in the assault on the Armoury. Arrested while Nursing Himangsu Sen who was sevarely burnt during the assault on the Armoury.

Participated in the second hunger-strike in Cellular Jail—duration 37 days and another one in Alipur Jail in July 1939. Repatriated in 1938. Released August 1946. Total Jail Period—More than 16 years.

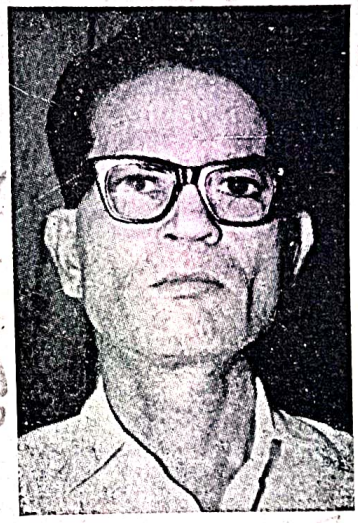
Chittagong Armoury Raid Case. Trial by Special Tribunal began denovo with 35 accused. Judgment given on 1-3-31. The following were sentenced to life imprisonment. Deported to Cellular Jail—Andamans. Date of Action 18-4-30.



Late Subodh Chowdhury
Born 1912 Died 1972

Agradip, Kalna, Burdwan, S/o Late Gagan Chowdhury—Landowner, was a student of Chittagong College. Joined the Chittagong Revolutionary Party. Took part in the assault on the Auxiliary force Armoury, fought a pitched battle with the Army on Jalalabad hills and also at Kalarpol encounter. Arrested on 6. 5. 30, Participated in the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail—duration 37 days and also in another hunger strike in Alipur Jail in 1939 July duration —36 days. Total Jail Period 17 years. Released August 1946.

Chittagong, S/o Late Kaviraj Jayanta Das Gupta. was a College Student. Participated in the assault on the Armoury and fought a pitched battle on the Jalalabad hills with the army. 20. 4. 30. Joined the second hunger-strike in Cellular Jail—July 1937 duration 37 days. Repatriated 1937 September. Released 1937 December. Total Jail period About 8 years.



Ranadhir Das Gupta
Born 1914

Ananda Gupta
Born 1916

Chittagong, S/o Late Jogendra mohan Gupta—businessman. College Student. Joined the Party of Masterda Surya Sen in 1927, was one of those fighters under Ambica Chakraborty who made an assault on the Telegraph office to make it inoperative. Arrested in Chandannagar (near Calcutta) on 1-9-30 along with Ganesh Ghosh and Lokenath Ball, was one of the hunger-strikers in Cellular Jail in 1933—duration 45 days and 1937—duration 37 days. Repatriated in 1938. Released 1943—Total Jail Period 13 years.

Dinesh Das Gupta
Born 5. 12. 1911

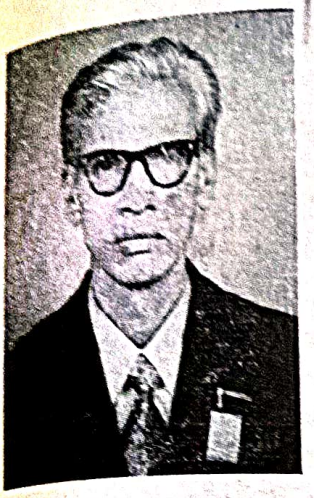
S/o Late Pratap Chandra Das Gupta. Joined the Revolutionary Party in 1928. was an Intermediate Science student at the time of his arrested. Arrested on 13. 6. 32. with Savitri Devi and her son Ramkrishna Chakraborty. Her house was surrounded by a military force under Captain Camaroon. There was hot exchange of fire. Camaroon fell down dead. Nirmal Sen and Apurba Sen by their resolute and determined stand could facilitate escape of Masterda. Both of them died a heros death. In the case Dhalghat firing case that followed Dinesh was convicted and deported to Andamans. Released in 1938. Arrested again during the 2nd world war in 1940. Released in 1946. Total Jail period 12 years.

Sailesh Roy

At Noakhali was a B. Sc. Student of Comilla College. successfully carried out a revolutionary Action by shooting down the notorious A. S. P. of Comilla, E. B. Elison. by Sailesh in broad daylight. Sailesh escaped unhurt. Police could not trace him. Was arrested on 20. 3. 33. in connection with Sakshihat Arms and explosive find case—Aplan was made to rescue Masterda from Jail—Some arms and explosives were seized. Sailesh in this case was convicted to 7 years rigorous imprisonment and deported to Cellular Jail, Andamans.

Shri Manilal Dutta
Born 13. 5. 1915

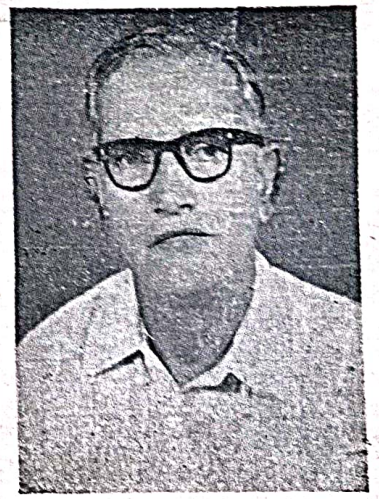
At Kashiaish Patia—Chittagong. S/o Late Purna Chandra Dutta was an Assistant in a Commercial concern. Manilal Passed Matriculation Examination. Joined the Revolutionary Party in 1929. Remained under ground for 13 months performing various revolutionary Jobs designed by Masterda, was one of the fighters in the Gairala encounter with army. (16. 2. 33.) Masterda was arrested. Manilal was subsequently in Bidgram Arms find case convicted to 10 years R. I. Deported to Andamans. Participated in the second hunger-strike there and another one in Dum Dum Central Jail 1939 July. 37 and 36 days respectively. Released 1945. Total Jail Period—12 years.



Kalipada Chakraborty
Born 1909

At Saroatali, P.S. Boalkhali—Chittagong. S/o Pundit Shyama Charan Smirtithirtha. Joined the Revolutionary Party in 1921. Participated in the assault on Telephone and Telegraph office—18-4-30 and was one of the fighters in the pitched battle with the Army on Jalalabad hill—22-4-30. Police could not arrest him for about eight months. He was arrested on 1-12-30, along with Ramkrishna Biswas after the shooting of Inspector Tarini Mukherjee at Chandpur Railway Station. The Inspector died of the shot. In the trial Ramkrishna was sentenced to death and Kalipada was sentenced to transportation for life. Deported to Cellular Jail, wherein he participated in the two hunger-strikes —45 and 37 days and another one in Alipur Central Jail 1939—36 days. Repatriated 1938 January—Released in 1946 August. Total Jail period—More than 16 years.

Asanulla Action : Masterda Surya Sen's Revolutionary Party anvarded death sentence on D.S.P. Khan Bahadur Asanulla, Haripada successfully carried out the sentence at Nizam paltan foot-ball ground, Chittagong Town on 30-8-31 by shooting down to death Notorians and Arch Anti National Assanulla. Sentenced to Transportation for life. Deported to Andamans. Joined the second hunger-striket here duration 37 days—repatriated 1938. Joined another hunger-strike, Alipur Central Jail 1939 July. Released 1946. Total Jail period—15 years—S/o Late Kaviraj Ambica Charan Bhattacharrya.



Shri Haripada Bhattacharjee
Born 1914 Howla, in Chittagong

Hridoyranjan Dass
Born 1900

At Patadia in Chittagong, S/o Late Nityananda Das—a business man. Joined the Revolutionary Party in 1928. Arrested in the Dynamite Couspiracy case. A plan was made to rescue the Armoury Raid Prisoners, Captive in Chittagong Jail by blowing up the Jail wall by Dynamite—one young man was arrested with a Land mine and the plan was licked out. In the subsequent trial Hriday Das was awarded 5 years' rigourous imprisonment—1931. Deported to Andamans. Released—1937.

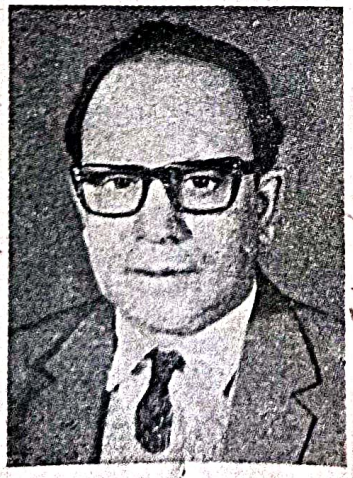
Chittagong Armoury Raid Case. Trial by special tribunal began denovo with 35 accused. Judgment given on 1. 3. 31. The following were sentenced to life imprisonment. Deported to Cellular Jail.—Andamans, Date of Action :—18. 4. 30.

Lalmohan Sen
Born 1914, Died 19. 10, 46

Musapur, Sandip, Noakhali. (Now Bangladesh) Led a band of fighters to remove Rail Lines, cut off telegraph lines near Dhum Station 55 miles off from Chittagong in order to sever all communications with Chittagong town. Arrested at Comilla Participated in the two hunger-strike in Cellular Jail 1933-1937. Another one in Alipur Jail in July 1939. Duration 45, 37 & 36 days respectively. Released 31. 8. 46. Met death at sandip at the hand of a frenzied communal mob. He was on a peace Mission in the riot-affected area there. Total Jail period—more than 16 years.

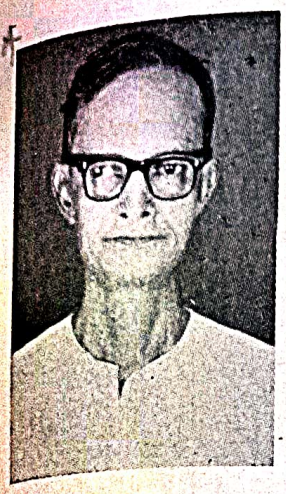
Gossaindanga, Chittagong. S/o Late Dinabandu DE-a Railway Employee. Matriculated. Joined the revolutionary Party in 1928. Participant in Armoury Raid, Jalalabad battle and Pahartali European Club Raid. Made land mines in his house, his wife was an ardent worker. Broke through Police Cordon around his house. His uncle Nishi De and three other revolutionary workers were arrested. Subsequently arrested on 13-12-33, along with Monilal Dutta, another Deportee to the Andamans. In the case that followed Bidgram Arms find case—he was sentenced to 10 years R. I. A reward was declared for his arrest. Deported to Andamans. Repatriated in 1938 January. Joined the second hunger-strike in Andaman and another one in Dum Dum Central Jail 1937-1939, 37 and 36 days. Released 1945. Total Jail period—12 years.

Shri Kalikinkar Dey
Born 4. 5, 1910



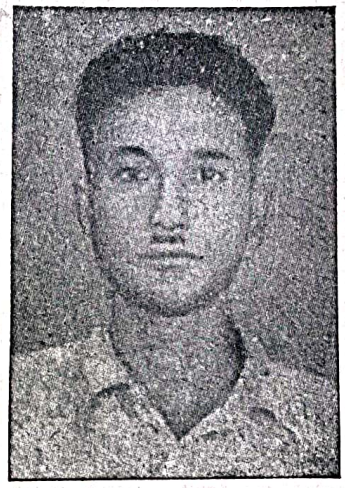
Shri Fakir Sen
Born 1915

Chittagong, S/o Late Madhab Chandra Sen Gupta Govt. Service holder and landowner. Joined the Revolutionary Party of Masterda Surya Sen in 1929. Participated in the assault on the Armoury Arrested on 5. 5. 30. Joined the second hunger-strike in cellular Jail 1937 July—Duration 37 days—Repatriated September 1937. Released 1937— Total Jail period 7 years. Released in 1937. Re-arrested in 1940 for violation of Cr. P. C. 144 and was remained interned during 1940-41.



Shri Saroj Guha
Born 9. 6 1912

Supplementary Chittagong Armoury Raid case : began with three accused. Ambica Chakraborty and Saroj Guha was convicted to Transportation for life. Saroj was deported to Andamans. Ambica Chakraborty was not deported due to illness from T. B. Saroj was son of Late Nandalal Guha, pleader, was a matriculate. Joined the Revolutionary Party in 1927, was one of the fighters in the assualt on the Police Armoury and Jalalabad hill pitched battle with Army. Remained underground for about 32 months. Saroj shot at Durno, District Magistrate of Dacca and inflicted severe injury, could escape after the incident. Repatriated in 1938 —January. Released in 1946. Total Jail Period—14 years.



Shri Himangshu Bhowmik
Born 1916

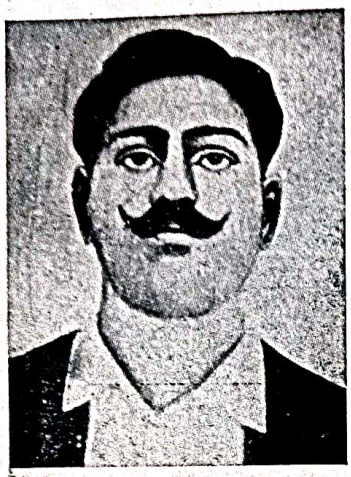
S/o Late Nabakumar Bhowmik—business man Joined the revolutionary Party at the age of 14. Remained underground for about three years. Arrested on 4. 4. 36 at night near the Railway track at Sahadevpur near Feni—They were three. A hot chase followed by the Police with exchange of fire. Himangshu was arrested on the spot with bullet injuries. The case that followed—Feni shooting case, he was sentenced to transportation for life. Deported to Andamans Participated in the second hunger-strke in Cellular Jail—1937 July, 37 days. Also in Alipur Central in 1939—36 days. Repatriated in 1938 January—Released 31st August 1946—Total Jail Period—about 11 years.

Shri Sushil Kumar De
Born 17. 10. 1908

Dhorala, Saroatoli—Chittagong. S/o Late Sarat Chandra De. Joined the revolutionary party in 1923. In 1928 arrested in Connection with a shooting case, and set free after seven months. Took part in the removal of Railway line and cutting of telegrap wires at Nangal Kot Station—18-4-30 and European Club Raid. on 30. 10. 33. he was arrested at Kanungopara from a house with rifle wounds. Arms were found in that house. His family had to suffer much and property destroyed after Asanulla. Action from 1930 April till his arrest remained underground. In the case that followed after his arrest he was sentenced to 7 years. R. I. Released in 1939. externed from Chittagong. Arrested in 1940—Released in 1942. Total Jail More Than 9 years in Jail and underground Period more than Two years.

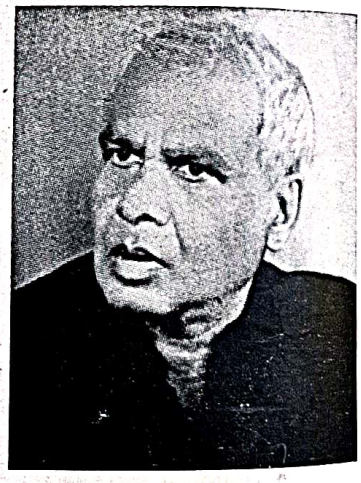
Lahore Conspiracy Case 1929—1930

In this case scores of revolutionery freedom fighters were arrested from many parts of India. Three of them, Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev met death on the gallow and Jatindranath Das breathed his last after fasting for 63 days. Of the convicted persons, the following revolutionary freedom fighters were deported to the Andamans :



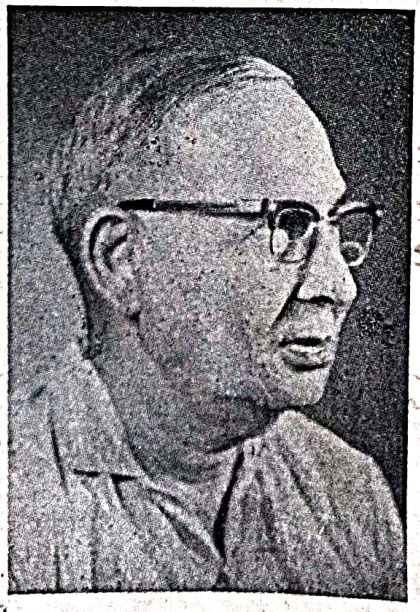
Mahabir Singh

Born 16th September 1908, Shahpur Tahala-Etah—U. P. S/o Kunwar Devi Singh. was a student of D. A. V. College Kanpur. Joined the Hindustan Republican Association subsequently re-named Hindustan Socialist Republican Army. Drove the car by which Bhagat Singh and Rajguru escaped after successfully gunning down Saunders. Arrested in summer of 1929. Resorted to Hunger-strike while he was an undertrial Prisoner in Lahore Jail. Sentenced to Transportation for life. Deported to the Andamans. There participated in the first hunger-strike in May 1933 and fell victim to the brutal force feeding Process. Breathed his last on 17th May—1933.



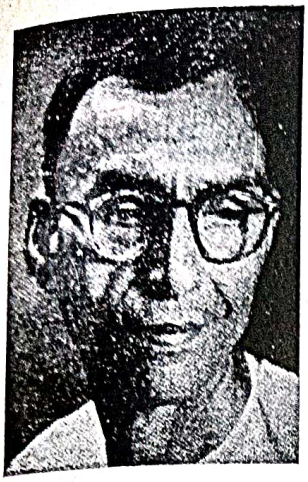
Shri Bijoy Kumar Sinha

Born, 17. 1. 1909. Kanpur S/o Markand Das Sinha, was a student of Christ Church College, while a school student came in touch with Sachindra Nath Sanyal. Became an Active member of H. R. A. Ajoy Ghosh and Batukeswar Dutta was his classmate. Ajoy Ghosh was convicted in Lahore conspiracy case. Remained underground for about two years. Arrested in 1929 in connection with Lahore conspiracy case, while the trial was going an resorted to hunger-strike in Lahore Jail along with Jatindra Nath Das and others. Sentenced to Transportation for life. Deported to the Andamans. Participated in the hunger-strike in Cellular Jail 1933 May—Duration 45 days and second one in 1937 July 37 days. Repatriated in 1937. Released in 1938 but afterwards kept in detention from 1941-1945. Total Jail period—17 years. His brother Rajkumar Singh was convicted in Kakoricase.



Dr. Gaya Prasad Katiyer

Born in 1901 Jagadishpur, S/o Late Manjiram Kyer Joined H.R.A. in 1925. Arrested at Saharanpur in 1929 in connection with Lahore conspiracy case. Joined the hunger-strike in Lahore Jail along with Jatin Das and others. Remained underground for about two years. Sentenced to Transportation for life. Deported to the Andamans. Participated in the first hunger-strike in May—1933—45 days. Also, Participated in the second hunger-strike in 1937 July—37 days. Repatriated in 1937. Released but again arrested and Kept confined in Jail till 1946. Total Jail Period 17 years.



Late Satish Chandra Pakrashi

Born—1894. Madhabdi, Dacca (Now Bangladesh). S/o Late Jagadish Pakrashi. while a school student took Part in the Anti-Partition movement in 1906. Came in touch with Anushilan Samity, Dacca Branch during this period. But came to intimate and trusted role in 1910. Arrested in 1911 and sentenced to 1 year imprisonment under Arms Act. After release went underground. In the intervening period till his arrest in February 1918 took prominent part in three major Actions--a) Attempt on the life of Basanta Chatterjee—Dy' Supdt, I. B. Police, Calcutta, 25th November 1915. b) while hiding in Malda, a head master of school was inflicted death punishment for his nefarious activity as a police informer. One young man was sentenced to transportation for life in this case. c) Shifted to Gauhati—Assam, in 1917. Took shelter in a house together with a few other revolutionary fighters. There was another house sheltering other co-fighters. While on guard duty Satish Pakrashi observed in the late hours of night that the policemen were cordoning the house. Woke up other fighters. Decided to break the police cordon. Heard sound of fire from the other house. Satish Pakrashi and his co-fighters suddenly started firing on the police men and thus they could break the cordon and could escape to safety. Arrested in February in 1918, under regulation III of 1818 in Calcutta. Thus ended his six years' underground life. Released in 1921 January. A plan was mooted to go abroad. But the police got prior information and Satish Pakrashi narrowly escaped arrest at Kidderpore Dock. Again arrested in 1923 and detained till 1928. After release, started preparations for organising armed uprising in three places--Chittagong, Barisal and Calcutta. While engaged in this work arrested from a house on Mechuabazar Street on 19. 12. 29. in the early morning along with Niranjan Sen and Ramen Biswas. Very shortly, about 32 other revolutionary freedom fighters were arrested from different places of Bengal and a case framed against them styling Mechuabazar Bomb Case. Sentenced to 7 years' transportation in June, 1930. Prior to his arrest a Red leaflet was widely distributed in Bengal exhorting the youth to rise in revolt against the British Raj. Deported to the Andamans. In Cellular Jail, Participated in the hunger-strike of 1933. May, (45 days). Repatriated in early 1937 and on the completion of the term, detained under B.C.L.A. Released in 1938. After the outbreak of Second World War, arrested again. Released in 1942. Total Jail period more than 21 years. Breathed his last on December 1973.

He was a good writer in Bengali. His reminicences of the 'Agniyuga'—'Agniyuger Katha' was acclaimed by the reading public.

Niranjan Sengupta

Born 1902 Barisal (Now Bangladesh) S/o Late Sarbananda Sen Gupta. Joined Anushilan Samity in 1921. A student leader, organiser of All India students' Conference. Elected Secretary of the first students' Union of Krishnanath College—Berhampore, was sent there to organise Anushilan Samity. When was a B.Sc. Student 4th year—arrested under B.C.L.A. in 1925. Released in 1928. After release Joined Satish Pakrashi in the preparatory work for organising armed uprising. Arrested in the early morning of 19th December 1929. Placed on trial in Mechuabazar Bomb Case. Sentenced to 7 years' transportation. Deported to the Andamans. One of the participants of the hunger-strike of May—1933 in the Cellular Jail—45 days. After the expiry of the full term of sentence was detained. finally released in 1939. Repatriated in early 1937. Total Jail period more than ten years. Breathed his last in 1969.

Sachin Kar Gupta

Born 1906. Nalchira, Barisal (Now Bangladesh) S/o Late Rashbehari Kar Gupta. Popularly known as Hira. Came in touch with the Barisal group of the revolutionaries, Sankarmath. In 1928 Joined with Satish Pakrashi in the preparatory work for organising armed uprising. Arrested in connection with Mechuabazar Bomb Case and was placed on trial with Satish Pakrashi, Niranjan Sen Gupta and others. Sentenced to 7 years' transportation. Deported to the Andamans. One of the hunger-strikers 1933—May, 45 days in the Cellular Jail. Repatriated in 1937 and released in 1938. Breathed his last in April 1976. He along with Dinesh Majumdar Sushil Dasgupta escaped from Midnapur Central Jail.

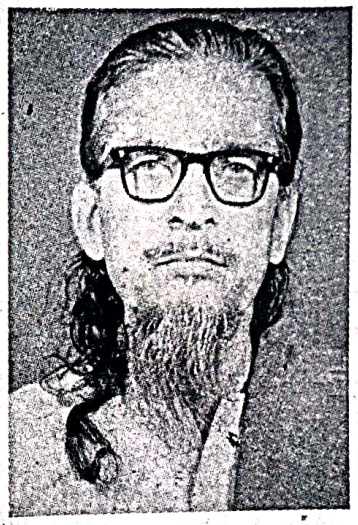
Shri Mukul Ranjan Sen

Born. 1908. Goila, Barisal (Now Bangladesh). Joined Sankarmath group at the age of 14. was a science graduate. Arrested on 25. 1. 1930. and placed on trial in Mechuabazar Bomb Case along with Satish Pakrashi, Niranjan Sengupta, Sachin Kar and others. Sentenced to 7 years' transportation. Deported to the Andamans. Repatriated in 1933 due to illness from T. B. Released before the expiry of the sentence on medical ground in late 193 on Parole. Interned at his home. after withdrawal of internment at home in 1938 again interned with restriction on his movement during second world war. Total suffering about 10 years.

Sudhangshu Dasgupta

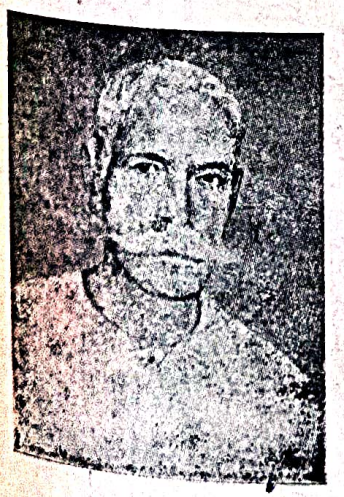
Born—30-1-1912. Barisal (Now Bangladesh). S/o Late Matilal Dasgupta. Joined 'Anushilan Samity' at the age of 14. was a Medical Student. Arrested on 19. 12. 29, morning from the house on Mechuabazar Street wherefrom a few hours earlier Satish Pakrashi, Niranjan and Ramen Biswas arrested placed on trial in the Mechuabazar Bomb Case. Sentenced to 5 years' prison term. Deported to the Andamans. One of the hunger-strikers in the Cellular Jail, in 1933—May, 45 days. Repatriated in early 1935. After release kept delained under B.C.L.A. Total Jail Period 6 years.

Born—21st March 1906. Pabna. (Now Bangladesh) S/o Late Durga Kanta Roy Chowdhury, was an honourary magistrate with first class power. Initiated to revolutionary movement by his elder brother Mrinal Kanta—a member of Anushilan Samity ! while a College Student came in contact with Kiron Chandra Mukherjee. Stayed at his ashram in Daulatpur for months together. Arrested on 28. 1. 29 from 23, Marqus square. placed on trial in the Mechuabazar Bomb Case. Sentenced to 5 years' R. I. Deported to the Andamans. One of the hunger-strikers in Cellular Jail—May 1933, 45 days. Repatriated and released in 1935. After release detained under B.C.L.A. After release in 1938 Joined the Congress and became Asstt. Secretary Jessore district Congress Committee subsequently Joined the Congress Socialist-Party. Participated in the 'Quit India movement' 1942. His younger brother Usha Kanta died a heroes death in the Bangladesh freedom war in 1972.



Shri Nishakanta Raychaudhuri

Jindapur–Junglekoria Gorakhpur—U.P. S/o Late Nepal Prosad Pandey. On 4th January 1922, A huge procession of village people during Non-co-operation movement (1921-22) was passing by a Police Station. The sepoys of the Thana witnessing such a big gathering of people lost its balance of Judgment and started lathi charging the processionists. The processionists defying the Police beating stood where they were shouting Patriotic slogans. The Police fired on the people. This infurated the people and they laid seize on the thana and set fire to it causing number of deaths to the sepoys. Due to Police firing about 26 Persons died and hundreds injured. In the trial that followed, the trying Judge awarded death sentence to a score of persons and about the same number to Trahsportation for life. Dwarka Prosad was one of the lifetermer. Deported to the Andamans in 1923. Repatriated in 1930 and was released in 1937. In 1942 again arrested and detained in Jail. Total Jail Period about 20 years. He has breathed his last in January end—1982. This event is known as chowrichoara popular upsurge after which Gandhiji withdrew the Non-co-operation movement.



Dwarka Prosad Pandey

Calcutta Conspiracy and Dalhouse Sq. (B.B.D. Bag) Bomb Case. A bomb was throwi on the Calcutta Police Commissioner, Charles Tegart on 25.8.30. at 11 A.M. The follow ing two revolutionary freedom fighters were convicted in the case alongwith others :

Dr. Narayan Roy M. B.

Born : 1900.
S/o Late Dr. K. N. Roy of Kailash Bose Street, Calcutt Joined the Jugantar Party in 1928. was also a Councillo of Calcutta Corporation at that period. Sentenced to 1 years Rigourous imprisonment. Transferred to Yerhed Jail in Bombay. From there to Cellular Jail in Andama Islands in 1933. Participated in the two hunger-strike there. Repatriated in 1938. Released in 1939. Total Ja Period about nine years. Breathed his last on 1. 11. 73.

Born : 1903
S/o Late Kaminikumar Bose—Landlord. Joined Revolutionary Party at the age of 11. Main field of activity Dacca —Calcutta. Arrested in September 1930. Family property confiscated. Sentenced to 15 years Rigionrous imprisonment. Joined hunger-strike in Cellular Jail, 45 days 1933 May. Released and again detained under Defence of India Rules. Total Jail period about 14 years. Breathed his last on 27th February 1981.

Dr. Bhupal Basu M.B.

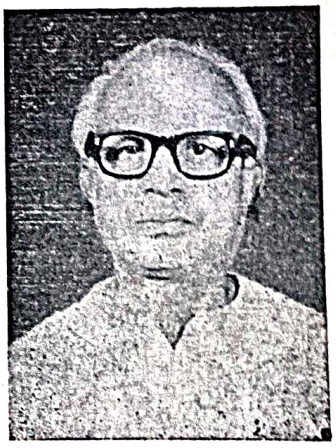
Prasanta Kumar Sengupta

Born 21. 9. 1914 at dacca. S/o Late Akshay kr. Sengupta. (Govt. Service : his pension was stopped after his son's arrest.) Matriculate. Joined Anushilan Samity. Arrested in 1932 in connection with an armed action. Sentenced to 7 years R. I. Escaped from Midnapore Jail alongwith Nripen Datta Roy in 1934. Got another two years' conviction participated in the second hunger-strike in Cellular Jail— 1937 July—duration 37 days. After release, was re-arrested and convicted to one years' imprisonment. Total Jail period about 10 years.'

'Statesman' editor Alfred Watson shooting case

Sunil Chatterjee

Born : 7.1.—1909 Gangahata, Jaynagar, 24 Parganas. S/o Late Aghornath Chatterjee (Advocate at Muzaffarpur Bihar) Passed the degree course in Chemical Engineering—Jadavpur. Joined yugantar party at the age of 14. Field of activity, Calcutta—24 Parganas, Khulna, Comilla, Purulia, Hooghly & Barracpur Labour belt. Took active part in Bomb making, Organised Garlic Murder (27-7-31)—Judge Alipur Session Court and Watson shooting—Alfred Watson Editor of the Statesman. Arrested on 29-9-32 and in the subsequent trial sentenced to transportation for life. Deported to Andamans. Participated in the second hunger-strike in Cellular Jail and another one in Dum Dum Central Jail—1937 & 1939 - July, duration 37 & 36 days. Repatriated 1938, January. Released 1946, 31st August. Total Jail Period—14 years.

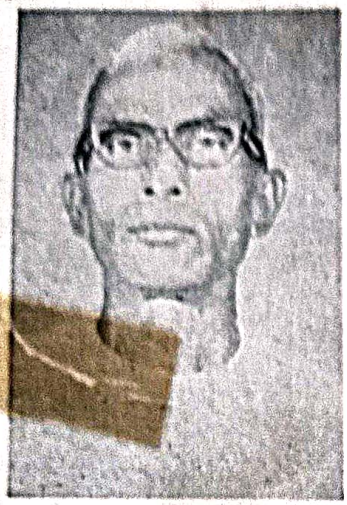


Haripada Chowdhury

orn :—1913
Madanpara, Kotalipara, Faridpur. S/o Late Akshay kumar howdhury (Landlord and Govt. Employee). was a student f B.A. class while arrested in connection with the Watson hooting case on 15. 10. 32. But tried separately under rms and Explosives Act. Sentenced to 10 years, R. I. eported to Andamans. Participated in the second hunger trike in Cellular Jail—1937 July, duration 37 days. Rerrested in 1941 and remained confined in Police custody r a few weeks. Repatriated in 1938. Released—1939. otal Jail period, 7 years.

Promode Ranjan Bose

Chakdah, Faridpur (Now Bangladesh) S/o Late Jamini Kanta Basu. Completed Intermidiate Arts and was a stenographer. Arrested--1932 in connection with Watson shooting case. Awarded 10 years R.I. Belonged to 'Yugantar' Party,, deported to the Andamans. Participated In the second hunger-strike in Cellular Jail—1937 July duration 37 days. Repatriated in 1937. Released in 1938. Total Jail Period about 7 years. He is no more in the living.



Gulab Chand Gupta

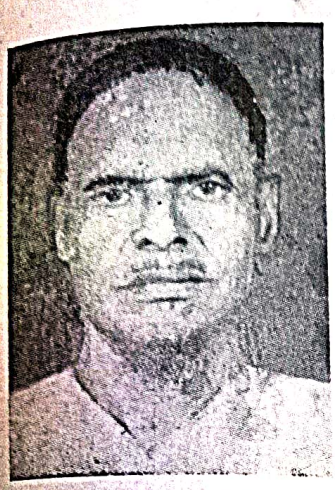
Born : 1904—Chanpatia, Champaran, Bihar. S/o Ramphal Shah. Matriculate. Intimately connected with Chandrasekhar Azad. Arrested in 1929 in connection with Lahore Conspiracy Case. Later on convicted in Motihari conspiracy case for 18 years' rigourous imprisonment. Deported to the Andamans. Participated in the second hunger-strike in Cellular Jail—1937 July, 37 days. Repatriated in 1937. After release again arrested in 1941. Escaped from Hazaribagh Central Jail in Nov'-1942 along with Jayprakash Narayan and others. Jayprakash and others were confined in Hanuman Nagar Jail after their arrest in Nepal. Gulabchand along with other co-fighters stormed the Jail and rescued Jayprakash and others. Re-arrested in Beneras in 1944 and sentenced to death but the High Court, Patna, released him in 1945. Total Jail period—18 years.

Born :—1907. Bhitaha. W. Champaran, Bihar. S/o Late Bharat Sukla, Matriculate. At the age of 17 Joined Anushilan Party and later on, the Hindustan Socialist Republican Army. Remained under-ground for about 2 years. Arrested in 1930 in connection with Motihari conspiracy case. In the trial that followed he was sentenced to 10 years' R. I. Married before arrest and had a son. Deported to the Cellular Jail. Participated in two hunger-strikes in Cellular Jail—1933, May and 1937 July—45 & 37 days. Repatriated in 1937. After release was re-arrested in 1940 and convicted to 2 years' under D. I. R. kept in detention till December 1945. Total Jail period 14 years.

Kedarmoni Sukla

Kundan Lal Gupta

Went under-ground after the commission of Train Action in between Kakori Station, and Alamnagar within 14 miles of Lucknow, date of action 9.8. 1925. Arrested in connection with Lahore Conspiracy Case 1929-30. Sentenced to transportation for life. Deported to the Andamans. Participated in the two hunger-strikes in Cellular Jail—1933 May—45 days and 1937, July 37 days. Repatriated in 1937. After release was kept confined in Jail during the II world war 1939-1945. Breathed his last in 1978.



Shyamdeo Narayan

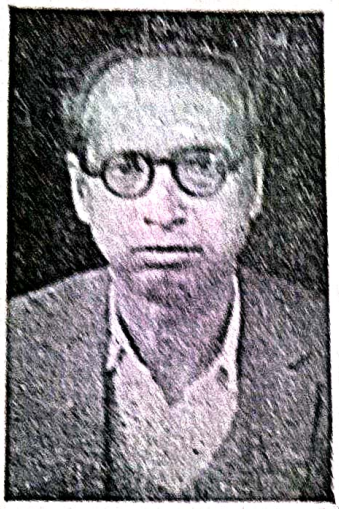
Born : 1905. Bhagar, Siwan, Bihar. S/o Late Jiban Nandan Sahaya undergone imprisonment for 6 months in Salt Satyagraha, 1930. Arrested in connection with Bankipur conspiracy case, 1932. Placed on trial and was sentenced to transportation for life. Deported to the Andamans. One of the Participants of hunger strike in the Cellular Jail—1937 July, 37 days. Repatriated in 1937 and released in 1938. After release worked in the Tatanagar and Jharia labour belt. Went underground in 1942-43 during the quit India movement. Arrested in 1944 and remained confined in prison for one year, Remained underground for more than 2 years and suffered imprisonment for more than eight years.

Born : 1914. Baikunthpur Barhande, Darbhanga, Bihar. Was a member of the Hindustan Socialist Republican Army. Undergone imprisonment for three months in Salt Satyagraha at Gaya in 1930. Again had to suffer conviction for violaling sec. 144 at Gaya in 1932. Arrested in connection with arms seizure case at Gaya and was sentenced to Seven and half years' imprisonment. Deported to the Andamans. One of the participants of Hunger strike in the Cellular Jail, 1937 July, 37 days. Repatriated in 1937 and released in 1938. Again remained confined in prison from 1940 to 1945 Under Defence of India Rules (D.I.R.) in Hazaribagh and Deoli Camp. Total Jail Period twelve years.

Biswanath Mathur

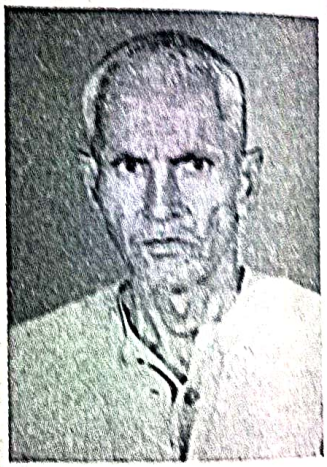
Shyam Krishna Agarwal

Born : 1913. Patna, Bihar. S/o Banwari Lal. Arrested in connection with Arms and Explosives Seizure Case in 1931. Placed on trial and was sentenced to transportation for life under Arms Act, explosives Act and conspiracy to wage war against the King Emperor. Deported to the Andamans. Participated in the hunger strike in Cellular Jail, Andamans. —July 1937, 37 days. Repatriated in 1937 and released in 1938. Suffered detention during the 'quit India' movement 1942. Total Jail period more than Ten years.



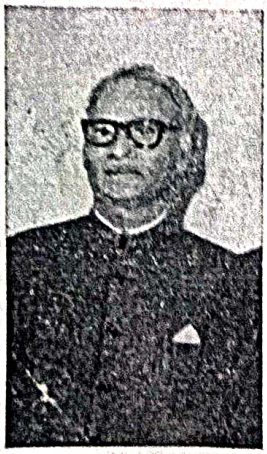
Harabandhu Samajdar

Born—1912. Singerdaha, Faridpur. (Now Bangladesh) S/o. Late Annadacharan Samajdar. Was an intermediate student. Joined 'Yugantar Party' at the age of 16. First arrested in Connection with Dalhousie sq. Bomb Case—1930 (Calcutta) and Jakhera Action in Meerut, U. P. Convicted in 1932 Under Arms Act by the Sessions Court in Delhi to 7 years' rigourous imprisonment. Deported to the Andamans. One of the Participants of hunger strike in 1937, July,—37 days. Repatriated in 1937. After release, had to suffer imprisonment during the second world war. Total Jail period more than 12 years.



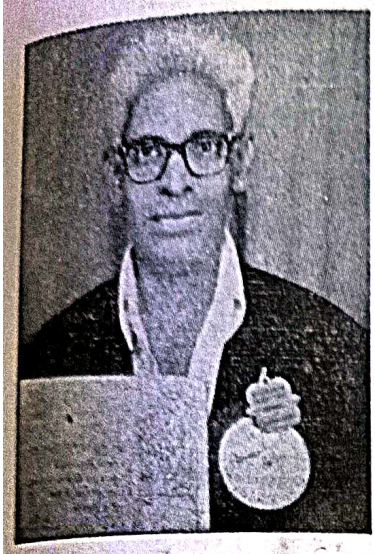
Gouri Sankar Dubey

Born—1903. Tikuha, Champaran, Bihar. S/o Late Gena Dubey. Joined the Revolutionary Party in 1930. Married —had a son and a daughter. Arrested in Connection with Motihari, Bankipur, and Muzzafarpur arms find case. Deported to the Andamans.



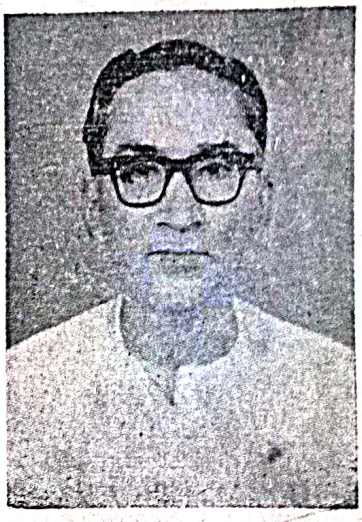
Laxmi Kanta Sukla

Born—1913. Unao, U. P. S/o. Pundit Gopi Krishna Sukla. Joined the Hindustan Socialist Republican Army. Sentenced to Transportation for life in Connection with Jhansi Commissioner Bomb Case in 1930. Deported to the Andamans in the same year. Was confined in the Settlement in Port-Blair, Andamans.



T. Satchidanandam Sivam

Born—October, 1910. George Town Madras. S/o. T. V. Subrammaniyam. Was a member of Hindustan Republican Army. Convicted in city Bomb case in 1933. Deported to the Andamans. Participated in the second hunger-strike in 1937 July, 37 days. Repatriated in 1937. Released in 1940. Total Jail Period about 8 years. He is no more in the living.



Anukul Chatterjee

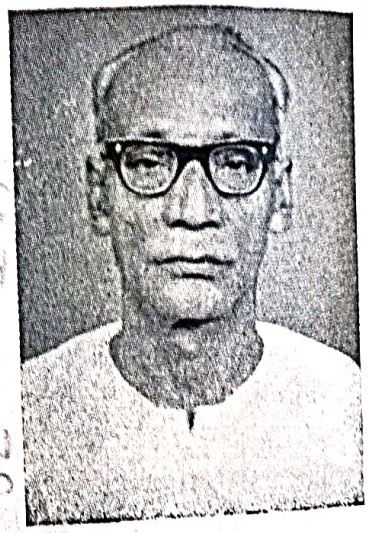
Born—11. 1. 1908. Madaripur, Faridpur. S/o. Late Sarat Chandra Chatterjee. Matriculated. Joined 'Yugantar' Party. Arrested in Angaria, Postal Mail Action—16-5-32. There were two other accused persons—Jogneswar Das and Jogesh Chakraborty, concurrently sentenced to 10 years' R. I. Deported to the Cellular Jail. One of the participants in hunger-strike in 1937, July, 37 days. Repatriated in 1937. After release was detained in Jail for Anti-War activities (II World War) in 1940. Released in 1946 and went underground. Total Jail period more than 11 years.

Ram Singh

He was placed on trial in two cases—Jaipur Commissioner shooting, 1933, and Dogra, the Police Commissioner, C.I.B. Jaipur in 1934. Arrested in February, 1935 and sentenced to 14 years' rigourous imprisonment in each case. The sentences to run concurrently. There were four other accused in these two cases. Deported to the Andamans in 1936. One of the hunger-strikers in July, 1937—37 days. Repatriated in 1937—Released from Lucknow district Jail in May 1941. Total Jail period more than 6 years.

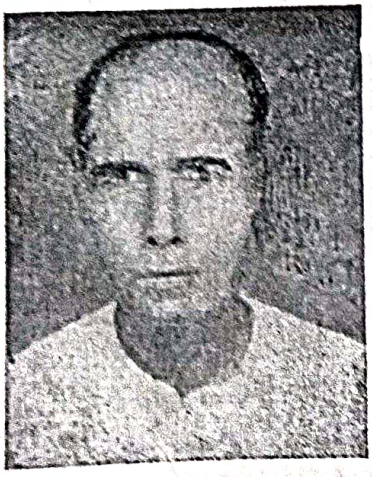
Ramesh Chandra Chatterjee

Born : 24-3-1912. Kirtipasha, Jhalakati, Barisal (Bangladesh) S/o Late Durgakumar Chatterjee Govt.' Service holder. At the age of 14 came in contact with "Yugantar" Party. Arrested on 10-3-29 in connection with the carrying out of revolutionary punishment on a notorious S. I. In the trial in Sessions Court sentenced to death. Commuted to transportation for life by the Hon' able High Court. Deported to the Andamans. Joined the two hunger-strikes in Cellular Jail—1933 May, 45 days and 1937 July—37 days. Another one in 1939 July in Alipur Central Jail—36 days. Repatriated in January 1938. Released 1946 August. Total Jail period—More than 17 years.



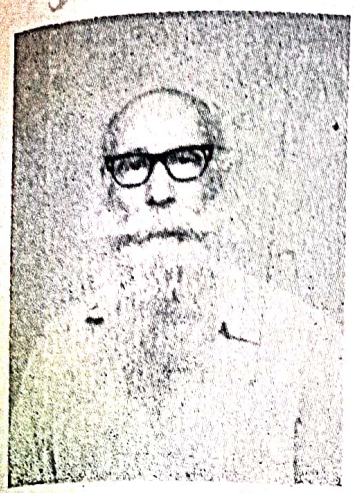
Suresh Chandra Das

Born : April 1905. Madaripur Dst. Faridpur (Bangladesh) S/o Late Rashbihari Das Small Trader—Came in contact with Santi-Sena at the age of 16 and Joined the Yugantar Party. Field of activity—Faridpur and Calcutta. Arrested in October 1930, at Armenian Street, Calcutta. Sentenced to life imprisonment in the Armenian Street, Action Case. Participated in the Non-Co-operation movement in 1921 and suffered 6 months' imprisonment. Deported to Andamans. Repatriated in 1938. Released in 1946, August. Total Jail Period about—17 years. Took Part in the two hunger-strikes' in the Cellular Jail, 1933—May and 1937—July, 45 & 37 days.



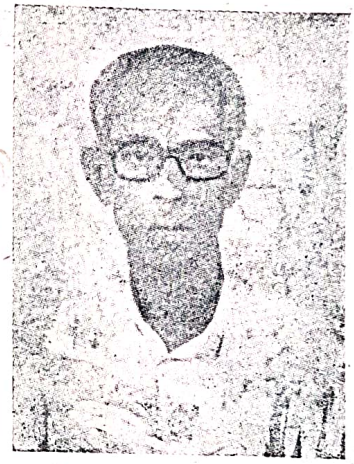
Achyuta Ghatak

Born : 1908. Singapara, Dacca. (Bangladesh) S/o Late A. B. Ghatak, Govt. service holder. Joined the Yugantar Party under Late Jibanlal Chatterjee. Field of activity—Munshiganj and Dacca. Arrested and Convicted in 1931 under Explosive Act to five years' rigorous imprisonment. Deported to the Andamans. Participated in the first hunger strike in Cellular Jail—1933 May, 45 days. After release was re-arrested and detained under B.C.L.A. Subsequently was home—interned.



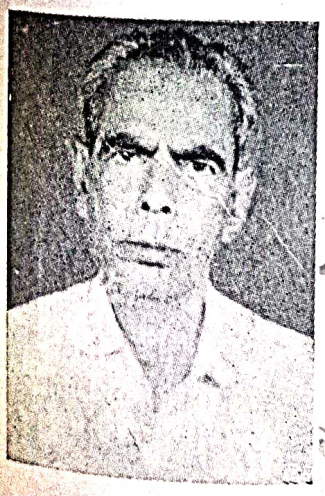
Bimal Das Gupta

Born : 1911 Basanda—Barisal (Bangladesh) S/o Late Akshay Kumar Das Gupta,- Ayurvedic Physician. Came to Midnapore Town at the age of seven and settled there. Joined Sri Sangha (B. V.) at the age of 17. Went underground after successfully carrying out of the extreme revolutionary punishment on James peddie D.M. Midnapore in April 1931. In October 1931 he was apprehended while he was carrying out of the revolutionary punishment by shooting villiers, President European Association. In the trial that followed he was sentenced to ten years' R. I. There being no direct evidence he could not be convicted in Peddie Case. Deported to Andamans in 1932. Joined the two hunger-strikes there in Cellular Jail 1933 May—45 days 1937 July 37 days, another one in Dum-Dum Central Jail in 1939 July 36 days. Repatriated in 1938 January. Released from Barisal Jail in 1940. Total Jail Period—9 years.



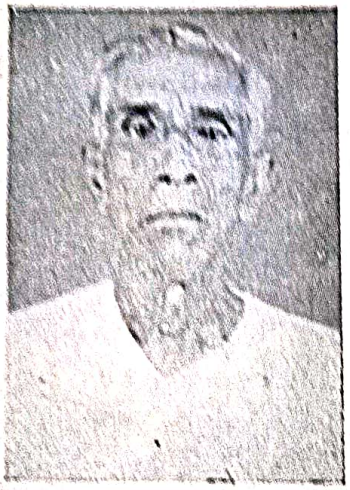
Biren Roy

Born : 1907 Bharakar, Dacca (Bangladesh) S/o Late Jatindra Nath Roy. Participated in Non-Co-operation and Civil Disobedience Movement. Suffered three months' imprisonment. In Gharisar Conspiracy Case, was sentenced to 3 years' imprisonment in 1931. Sent to Andamans. But repatriated within a few months from there. Released in 1938. Joined the Indian Independence League in Rangoon in 1942. In 1945 arrested and detained. Released in 1946.



Lalit Raha

Born : 28.2. 1910. Jadavpur Tangail Mymansingh (Bangladesh) S/o Late Madhav Chandra Raha. Joined the Yugantar Party. Field of activity Tangail—Mymansingh. A decision was made by the Party leadership there to inflict extreme revolutionary punishment on Cassel, Commissioner, Dacca Division and he was Chosen to carry out the decision. The case that followed after shooting, he was sentenced to 5 years' R. I. in December 1931. Previously participated in the Bhurbhuria Char Action. Deported to Andaman. Participated in the first hunger-strike there in Cellular Jail—May 1933, 45 days. Total Jail Period including internment about 6 years.

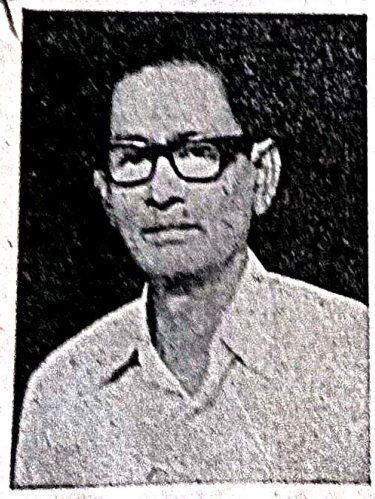


Surendra Mohan Kar Roy

Born—December 1902. Bijhari—Madaripur, Faridpur (Now Bangladesh) S/o. Late Basanta Kumar Kar Roy. At the age of 18, Joined 'Santi Sena'—a revolutionary group of Madaripur. Detained under B.C.L.A. in 1925-27. Took Part in several actions such as Palong, Naria etc. Police could not trace him. Lastly, arrested in connection with Charmuguria Post-office Action on 2nd March 1931. There were five accused of whom Monoranjan Bhattacharya was awarded capital punishment and he died a martyrs' death on the gallows. He was sentenced to transportation for life. Deported to the Andamans. Joined hunger strikes there in 1933 and 1937—45 & 37 days. Released in 1946. Total Jail Period 18 years. Breathed his last in May 1980.

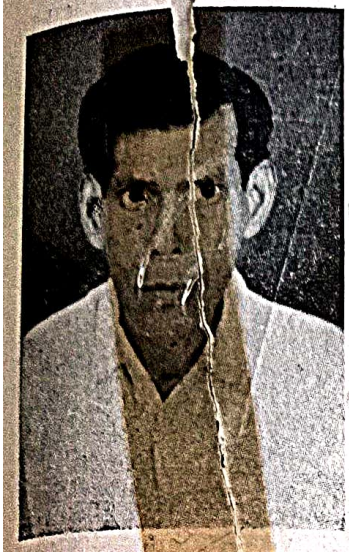
Born—28th September 1914. Yaridabad—Dacca. S/o. Late, Digendra Chandra Das, Joined the Purna Das's group of 'Yugantar' Party known as Santi Sena'—at Dacca. Was a student of 2nd year science at the time of arrest. Arrested on 12th March 1931 in connection with Charmuguria Post-Office Action. Sentenced to 7 years' rigourous imprisonment. Deported to the Andaman. Joined the hunger strikes in Cellular Jail—45 days and 37 days. Repatriated in 1937. Released 1938. Remained under ground during the Second World War from 1941 to 1943. Total Jail Period about 7 years.

Ram Chandra Das



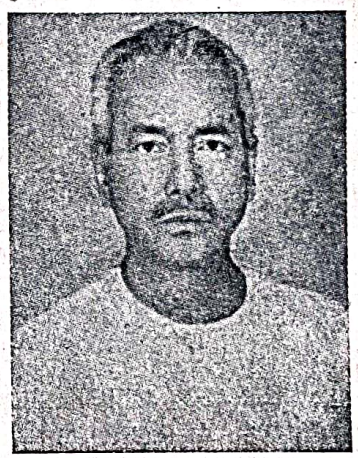
Santosh Kumar Datta

Born—1911. Moneswar, Dacca. S/o. Late Surat Chandra Datta. Joined 'Yugantar' Party at the age of 14 in Dacca. Took Part in more than one actions before arrest in connection with Charmuguria Post-Office Action on 2nd March 1931. Sentenced to 7 years' R.I. Deported to the Andamans. Participated in two hunger strikes in the Cellular Jail 45 days and 37 days. Repatriated in 1937 and released in 1938. Previously was arrested at Tamluk in 1930 for participating in salt Satyagraha and suffered 6 month's imprisonment. Total Jail Period about 8 years.



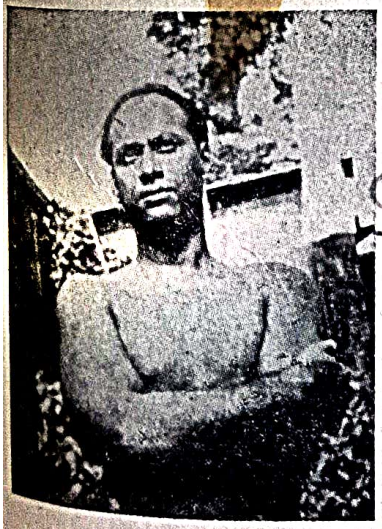
Subal Chandra Ray

Arrested in Connection with Charmuguria Post Office Action. Put on trial with Monoranjan Bhattacharya (met death on the gallows) Surendramohan Kar Roy, Ramchandra Das and Santoshkumar Dutta. He was awarded 7 years' R.I. Deported to the Andamans. Repatriated in 1937 and released in early 1938. Total Jail Period about 7 years. He is no more in the living.



Bhupesh Chandra Saha

Born—1911. Gohala, Gopalgonj. Faridpur (Now Bangladesh) S/o. Late Raicharan Saha. Thrice convicted in Civil Disobedience movement of 1930, totalling 7 months. Joined the Revolutionary Party in 1932. Arrested on 5th November 1932 in connection with Dhamrai Postal Mail Action. Convicted 7 years' R.I. on 26th April 1933. Resorted to hunger strike for eight days in Dacca Jail. Deported to the Andamans. Participated in the hunger strike in the Cellular Jail July 1937—37 days. Repatriated and released in March 1939. Total Jail Period more than seven years.

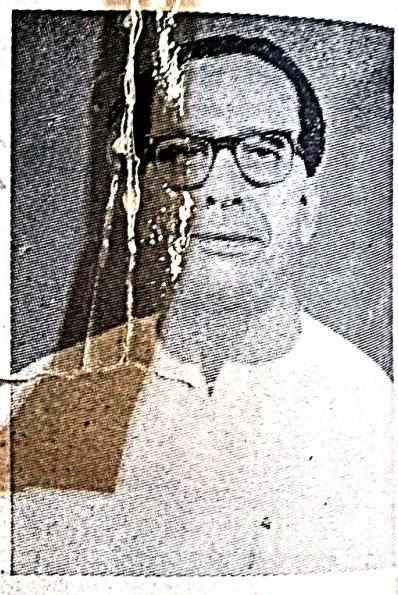


Adhir Kumar Nag

Born—1916. Dibrugarh, Assam. S/o. Late Mohini Mohon Nag. Joined Anushilan Samity at the age of thirteen. Arrested in connection with Dacca Station Road Action 1932. Convicted to 7 years' R.I. Deported to the Andamans. Joined the hunger strike in the Cellular Jail in July 1937—37 days. Repatriated in 1937 and released in 1939. Arrested again in 1940 under Defence of India rules and served a six month's Jail term. Total Jail period more than seven years.

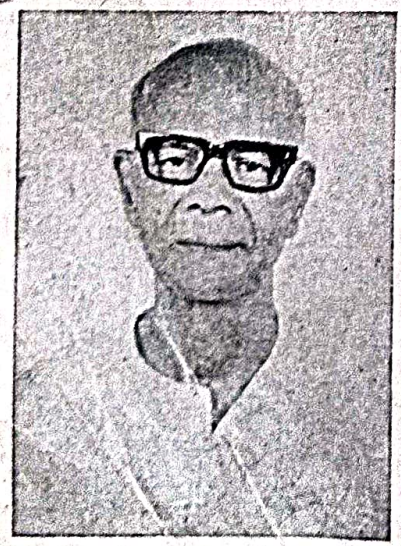
Benoy Bose

Born : 31st July, 1910. Rasunia, Bikrampur, Dacca (Now Bangladesh) S/o Late Hemanga Kumar Bose. B. Sc.l Student. In 1924 came in contact with the revolutionary Party 'Sri Sangha' Remained underground for an year from September 1930 to October 13th 1931, after the shooting action Pertaining to Lowman and Hudson.--Subsequently, arrested in connection with Dacca Imperial Bank Action along with his Colleague, Bangeswar Roy. Both of them were Sentenced to 10 years' rigourous imprisonment. Deported to the Andamans. Participated there in the Cellular Jail in two hunger-strikes 1933—45 days and 1937—37 days. Also participated in another hunger-strike in 1939 July—36 days. Released in September 1939. Total Jail period 8 years. Repatriated in 1938, January. He is no more in the living.



Bangeswar Roy

Born : 8. 12. 1911. Gandaria, Dacca. Belonged to Sri Sangha Prior to his arrest on 13. 10. 31. Took Part in more than one actions. Police could not trace him.—Arrested on 13th October 1931, in connection with Dacca Imperial Bank Action along with Benoy Kumar Bose. Sentenced to 10 years' rigourous imprisonment. Deported to the Andamans. One of the participants in two hunger-strikes in the Cellular Jail—1933—45 days and 1937—37 days. Also a Participant in another hunger-strike in 1939 July in Dum Dum Central Jail—36 days. Repatriated in 1938, January. Released on 29th September—1939. Total Jail Period 8 years.



Amalendu Bagchi

Born : 1st May, 1907 at Maternal Uncles' house at Taherpur Rajbati, Rajshahi (Now Bangladesh) S/o Late Bata Krishna Bagchi. B. Sc. and Completed Intermidiate Law. Joined Anushilan Samity in 1921. Arrested in September, 1931, in connection with Putia Postal Mail Action. Dist. Rajshahi. along with Bijan Sen. Both of them were sentenced to 7 years' R.I. Deported to the Andamans. Joined the two hunger-strikes there in Cellular Jail, 1933—45 days and 1937—37 days. Repatriated in 1937. Released in 1938. Total Jail Period. about 7 years. Bijan Sen, after Partition, remained in Rajshahi and was arrested by the last Pakistan Government (Bangladesh), while under confinement in Rajshahi Jail succumbed to brutal and revengeful belabouring by Jail sepoys.

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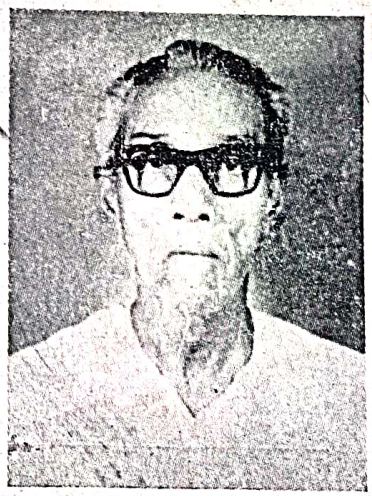
Biraj Deb

Born : May, 1915, Kalikatcha, Comilla (Now Bangla
S/o Late Iswar Chandra Deb. Participated in the civil d
obedience movement of 1930. Had to suffer imprisonment for the Participation. After release came in contact with Comilla group of 'Sri Sangha'. Remained underground from 1932 October to 1933 March. Arrested on 13th March, 1933 in connection with two cases—Kalikatcha shooting Action and Itakhola Mail Action in Sylhet, Assam. In the both the cases he was sentenced to transportation for life—20 and 25 years' respectively. In Itakhola Case Asit Bhattacharya awarded death sentence and he courted death on the gallows. Deported to the Andamans. Participated in the hunger-strike of 1937 July 37 days and another one in Alipur Jail in 1939 July 36 days. Repatriated in January 1938 and released in August 1946. Total Jail period fourteen years.

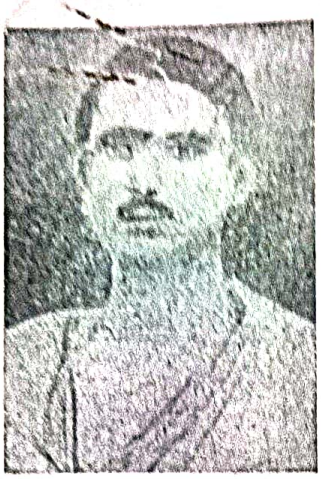


Chunilal Deb

orn : November, 17th 1906. Brahmanbaria, (Now Bangladesh) S/o Late Bhagan Chandra Deb. Participated in the Civil Disobedience Movement of 1930 and had suffered two terms of imprisonment 3 & 6 months 1930 and 1931. Came in touch with revolutionary activity. Arrested in connection with Medda Action in 1932 and was sentenced to 7 years' rigourous imprisonment on 7th March 1933. Deported to the Andamans. One of the Participants of hunger-strike in the Cellular Jail. Repatriated in 1937 and released in the fall of 1939. Total Jail period 7 years.

Nripendra Chandra Dutta R

Born : 1st March, 1919. Medda, Brahmanbaria. (Now Bangladesh) S/o Late Jogesh Chandra Dutta Roy. was a member of 'Yugantar' Party. Arrested on 1st November 1932 in connection with Medda Action. Sentenced to 5 years' R. I. on 7th March, 1933. Escaped from Midnapore Jail along with Prasanta Sen in 1934. But was Captured very shortly and was sentenced to 2 years' R.I. on this Count. Deported to the Andamans. One of the participants of the hunger-strike 1937, July—37 days in Cellular Jail. Repatriated in 1937 and released in 1939. Total Jail eriod Seven years.



Mohit Moitra

Born in Calcutta. S/o. Late Hemchandra Moitra. Hails from Natun—Bharonga—Pabna (Now in Bangladesh) Belonged to 'Yugantar' Party Rangpur group. Arrested on February 2nd—1932 in Calcutta. Sent up for trial under Arms Act. Sentenced to 5 years' prison term. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the first hunger strike in the Cellular Jail, May, 1933. While on hunger strike developed Lober Pneumonia, an effect of the Pouring in of Milk in the wind-pipe instead of stomach while being forcibly fed by rubber tube rashly pushed through the nasal passage. In consequence, breathed his last on 28th May, 1933 in the Cellular Jail.

Probodh Kumar Roy

Born : December 1908, Putiyana. Mymansingh (Now in Bangladesh) S/o. Late Rasikranjan Roy. Was a brilliant student. Secured five letters in the Matriculation examination (school final). After graduation took admission in the P.G. Course—Dacca University. Was expelled from the Jagannath Hall by the then provost Dr. R. C. Mazumdar along with Haresh Bhattacharya and Sudhindra Roy (Khoka Roy) for breaking sedition law at Sadarghat, Dacca toword the end of April 1930. Went underground in June 1930. Arrested in Saldah Action 31.10.30. Sentenced to 7 years' Prison term on 10.9.31. Deported to the Andamans in August 1932. Took Part in the first hunger strike—May 1933, 45 days. Total Jail Period about 8 years.

Rabi Neogi

Born : 1911. Sherpur, Mymansingh (Now in Bangladesh) S/o. Late Ramesh Chandra Neogi. Intermediate Arts. (I.A.) Belonged to 'Yugantar' Party. Served Prison term during the Civil Disobedience Movement 1930. Arrested in Connection with Saldah Action—31.10.30. Sentenced to seven years' Prison term on 10.9.31. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the first hunger strike in the Cellular Jail, May, 1933, 45 days. Lives in Bangladesh. Total Jail Period about eight years.

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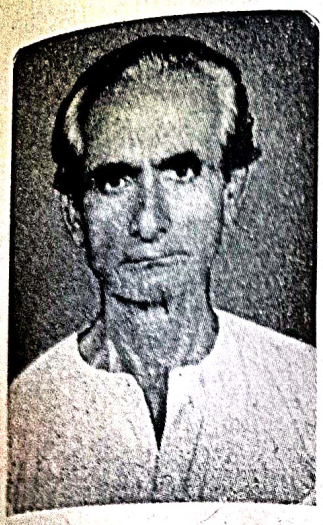
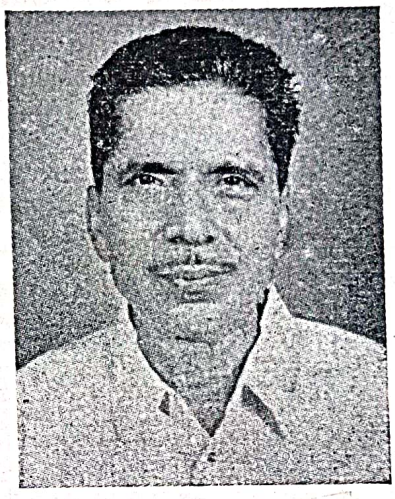


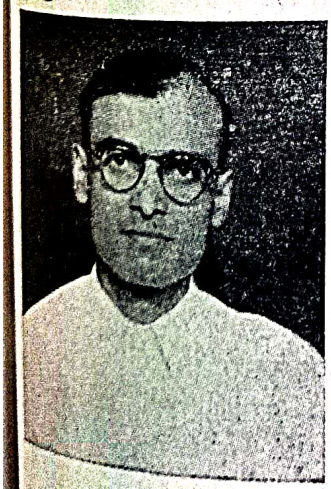
Dhirendranath Das

Born : 1910. Damdama, Mymansingh. (Now in Bangladesh), S/o. Late Jogendrakishore Das. Belonged to 'Yugantar' Party. Arrested in Saldah Action and was awarded Prison term but on appeal was released by the High Court. Afterwards arrested and sentenced to Seven years' Prison term under Arms Act. Escaped from Baharampur Jail. Re-arrested and deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the hunger strike in the Cellular Jail, 1937, July, 37 days. Total Jail Period more than six years.



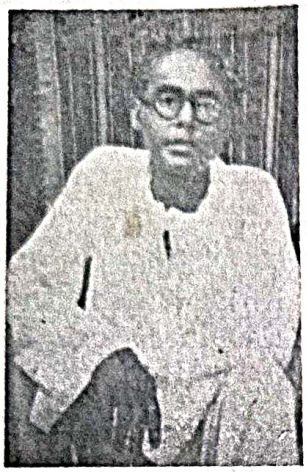
Hemendra Chakraborty

Bhadraghat, Pabna. (Now in Bangladesh) S/o. Late Herambanath Chakraborty. Intermediate Arts. Belonged to Anushilan Samity'. Remained underground for about Six years. Arrested in Connection with Atharabari Mail Action in September 1931 and sentenced to Seven years' Prison term. Took Part in more than one Action prior to the Atharabari Mail Action. Deported to the Andamans. One of the hunger strikeers of the first hunger strike in the Cellular Jail, May 1933—45 days. Total Jail Period about eight years.



Gopal Acharya

Born : 1911—Usthi, Mymansingh (Now in Bangladesh) S/o. Late Ambikakanta Acharya. Belonged to 'Anushilan Samity.' Was a very meritorions student. Secured 4 letters in the Matriculation Examination. (school final) Before arrest in Connection with Atharabari Mail Action Participated in more than one Actions. Sentenced to Seven years' Prison term in Atharabari Mail Action September 1931. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the two hunger strikes in the Cellular Jail 1933 May, 45 days and 1937 July, 37 days. Repatriated and released in 1937. Externed from Calcutta in June 1940. Again arrested and detained under Defence of India Rules from July 1940 to July 1942. Total Jail Period more than eight years.



Krishnapada Chakraborty

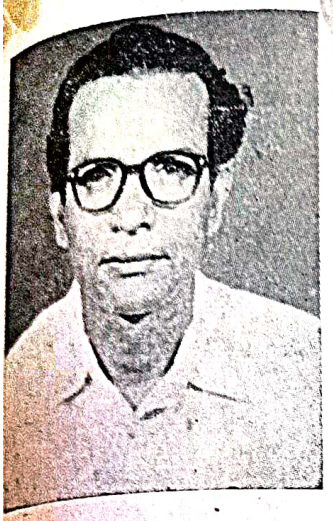
Born : 1903 Outshahi, Dacca. (Bangladesh) S/o. Late Rajkumar Chakraborty Merchant At the age of 19, Joined 'Anushilan' Samity. Arrested in 1930 under B.C.L.A and was confined in Buxa fort. (Doars—Near Coachbihar Town). Was then a fourth year student of Mitford Medical school—Dacca. Escaped from Buxa fort detention camp along with Jiten Gupta on 14-2-32 On 13-9-32 arrested at Agartola in connection with Tripura—Agartola Action and convicted to 9 years 6 months R.I. Deported to the Cellular Jail Andamans in January 1935. Was also Connected with Taltola Postal Action, Dacca. Joined the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail 1937 July duration 37 days. Repatriated in 1938 January. Released in 1939 from Dum-Dum Central Jail. Total Jail period about Ten years.

Born : 1916 Dacca Town (Bangladesh) S/o. Late Shashibhusan Roy Govt. Service. Joined 'Sree Sangha' at the age of 14. Was a Matriculate. Entrusted with the task of inflicling extreme. Revolutionary punishment on Grasby, the then S. P. of Dacca. There were hot exchange of fire between Benoy and the body-guards of the S.P. on 18-11-32. Benoy was severely injured. A bullet remained in his body till his death. In the subsequent trial he was sentenced to transportation for life. Deported to the Cellular Jail Andamans. Participated in the second hunger strike there. 1937 July duration 37 days. Another one in Alipur Central Jail 1939 July duration 36 days Repatriated 1938 January. Released 31st August 1946. Total Jail period 14 years. Died November 1981.

Benoybhusan Roy

Jiben Guhathakurata

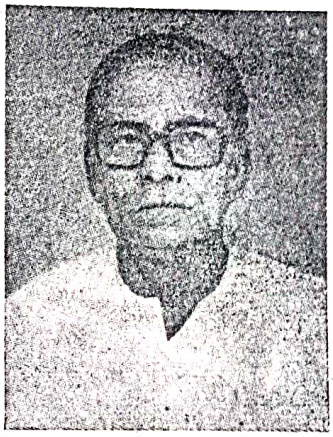
Born : 1916, Banaripara, Barisal. S/o. Late Nagendranath Guha Thakurta Medical Practitioner. Joined the 'Anushilan Samity' at the age of 13. Matriculated. Arrested in 1932 in connection with Inter Provincial Conspiracy Case, and Sentenced to Seven years' R.I. Deported to the Cellular Jail Andamans Participated in the Second hunger strike there. 1937 July duration 37 days. Repatriated and released. He is no more living. Total Jail period about Seven years.



Bhagaban Biswas

Born : 1913, South Satara, Dist. Noakhali (Bangladesh). S/o. Late Chunilal Biswas businessman and Landowner. When 16 Joined 'Anushilan Samity'. Was an Intermediate student in Comilla College. Arrested in 1932 for revolutionary activities and sentenced to 5 years' R.I. Deported to the Cellular Jail—Andamans. Participated in the second hunger strike there-1937 July duration 37 days. Repatriated and released in 1938, October. Arrested in 1942 for anti-war activities and confined in Jail for 2½ years. Total Jail Period more than 7 years.

Born : 1911 Tejpur, Assam. S/o. Late Shashibhusan Roy, Service holder. Joined 'Yugantar Party' at Garbeta in 1928. Arrested in Calcutta. A Case was instituted against him under Arms & Explosive Act and also made him an accused in Garbeta conspiracy Case. Sentenced to 12 years R.I. Deported to the Cellular Jail, Andamans. After release actively Participated in the Kishan Movement and also became the secretary of Kharagpur Town Congress. From 1940-42 remained confined in Jail. Total Jail Period about 9 years.



Saroj Roy

Harekrishna Konar

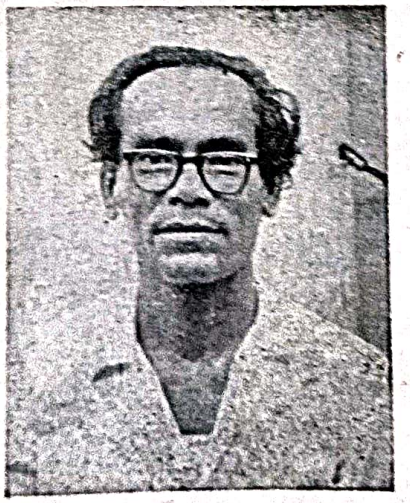
Born : 5-8-1915. Kumargaria, Raina, Burdwan. S/o. Late Saratchandra Konar, Businessman. When a school student arrested in Civil Disobedience Movement 1930. Arrested in 1932 in connection with an Action and Arms finding at Memari, Burdwan. Date of incident 15-9-32. He was then a student of Bangabasi College. Sentenced to Six years R.I. and deported to the Cellular Jail, Andamans. Participated in the first hunger strike there—May 1933 duration—45 days. Released in 1938. Took active Part in the Kishan movement. Detained in 1940. Total Jail period about 8 years. Died on 25-7-74.

Bholanath Roy

Born : 1913 Dacca Town. S/o Late Radha Ballav Roy- Goldsmith. Brought up and schooling in Rajshahi Town (Bangladesh). Joined Anushilan Samity at the age of was one of the participants who were entrusted with the task of inflicting extreme revolutionary punishment Luke –The superintendent of Rajshahi Central Jail 14. 11. 32. Arrested next day. In the case that follow sentenced to 7 years' R. I. Deported to the Cellular Ja Andamans. Participated in the second hunger-strike the 1937 July duration—37 days. Repatriated and released 1938. Total Jail Period More than 6 years.

Samarendra Ghosh

Born : 31.1.1915, Bankhuri, Manickganj–Dacca (Bangladesh). S/o Late Narendra Ghosh Talukdar. When 14 years of age joined revolutionary party. Matriculated. Arrested in May 1933 in connection with Manickganj Mail Action and convicted to 7 years R.I. Deported to the Cellular Jail, Andamans. Participated in the second hunger-strike there. 1937 July, duration 37 days. Repatriated in 1938 and released in 1939. Remained interned under Govt. order for 38 months in 1940. Thereafter went underground during the war years. Total Jail Period more than 7 years.



Bhupesh Chandra Guha

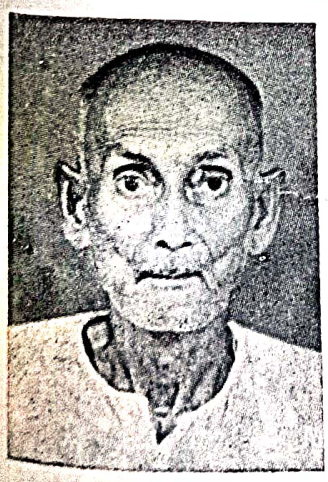
Born : 1909. Luhar, Barisal, (Bangladesh) S/o La Annada Charan Guha (D.S.P.I.B.C.I.D. Bengal Police Comilla), Joined 'Anushilan Samity' at the age of while a school Student. Arrested in June 1930 wi weapons. Convicted to 5 years and ten months R.I. De ported to the Cellular Jail, Andamans, in December 193 Participated in the first hunger strike there. 1933 Ma duration 45 days. After release remained interned und Govt. order upto 1938. Again kept interned during 'Qu India movement' in 1942.

Naliniranjan Sengupta

Born : 7.11.1915, S/o Late Bireswar Sengupta. Joined the revolutionary party Chittagong group at the age of 15 when he was a school student. Arrested in June 1933 in Calcutta. Sentenced to 5 years R.I. deported to the Cellular Jail Andamans. Participated in the second hunger-strike there 1937 July, duration 37 days. Repatriated and released in October 1938.

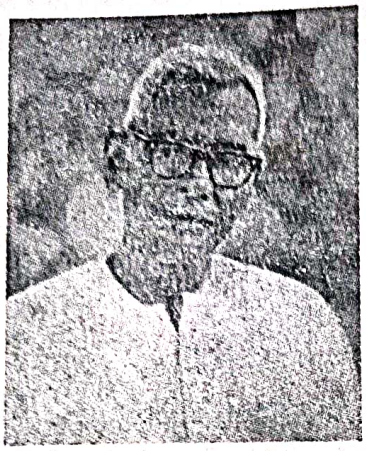
Bibhutibhusan Banerjee

Born : 1917. Tejpur, Dacca (Bangladesh) S/o. Late Lalit Mohan Banerjee. Matriculated. While a student came in contact with the revolutionary party. Arrested and tried by the Special Magistrate in Dacca and Convicted to 5 years R.I. under Arms Act. Deported to the Cellular Jail, Andamans. Repatriated in 1937. He died leaving behind his widowed wife.



Radhaballov Gope

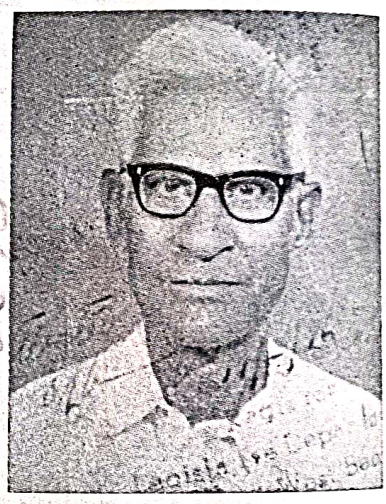
Born : 1897. Domeshar, Faridpur (Bangladesh) S/o. Late Madanmohon Gope—businessman. Read upto Intermediate. At the age of 13, Joined the 'Anushilan Samity'—Activity in Calcutta. Arrested on 1.9.33 with arms. Sentenced to 7 years R.I. under Arms and explosive Acts. Deported to the Andamans. Joined second hunger-strike there. July 1937. Repatriated in January 1938. Participated in the hunger-strike in Dum Dum Central Jail in 1939 July—duration 36 days. After the expiry of sentence arrested under Defence of India Rules. Released after the termination of the second world-war-in 1945. Total Jail period 12 years.



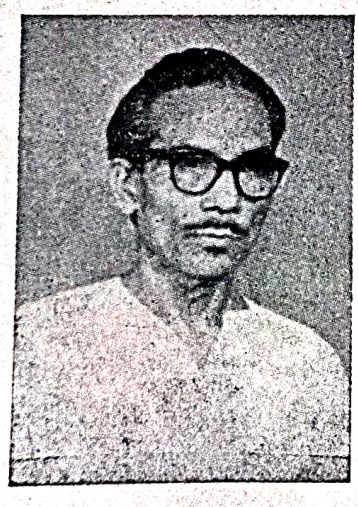
Kshitish Chandra Chowdhury born in 1899. A Science student. A member of Jugantar Party. Arrested in May—1930 in connection with Sarishabari Bomb Case and convicted by a Special Tribunal for 5 years and deported to Cellular Jail. Participated in the hunger-strike—May 1933—45 days. After serving full term was released and re-arrested under B.C.L.A. and detained till 1938.

Kshitish Chandra Chowdhury

Sunirmal Sen son of late Surendra Nath Sen. Born at Amdia, Dacca now in Bangladesh in 1905. Education upto B. Sc. degree. A member of Jugantar Party. Arrested in the middle of 1930 in connection with Sarishabari Bomb Case and convicted for 5 years by a Special Tribunal and deported to Cellular Jail. Spent 3 years in Cellular Jail. Released in 1935 and detained till 1938. Participated in the hunger-strike, 1933 May—45 days. Total Jail period 8 years.



Sunirmal Sen



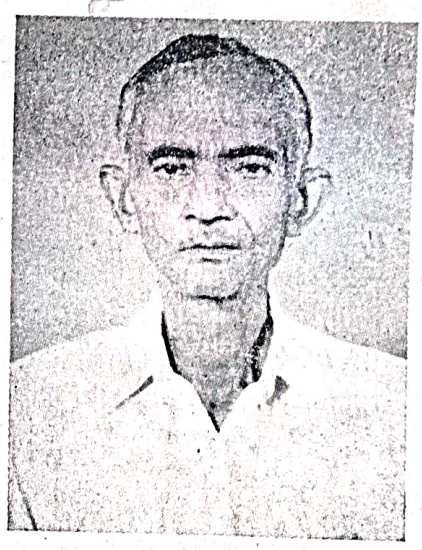
Born :—1904. Arrested by July of 1930 in connection with Sarishabari Bomb Case. Sentenced to 5 years R.I. Deported to the Andamans. Participated in the hunger-strike, 1933—May,—45 days. After completion of the prison term was detained under B.C.L.A. till 1938. Total Jail period 8 years.

Abani Ranjan Ghose

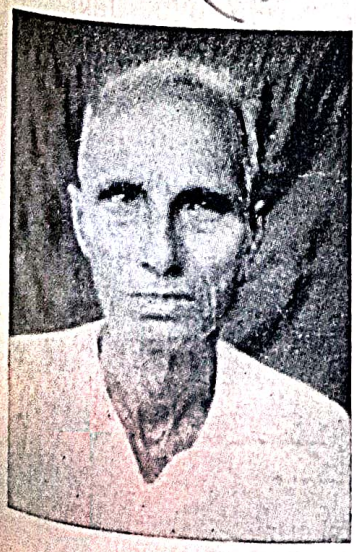
Jogendra Mohan Guha

Born : 1908 Raghunath, Barisal (Bangladesh) S/o. Late Amritalal Guha—businessman and Landowner. Read upto B.A. Joined 'Yugantar' Party at the age of 14. Arrested on 30-4-1932 and Convicted to Six years' rigorous imprisonment under Arms Act. Deported to the Cellular Jail, Andamans. Participated in the first hunger strike there. 1933 May—duration 45 days. Repatriated and released. Total Jail period—6 years.

Born : 24-6-1916 Munshiganj, Dacca (Bangladesh) S/o. Late Hemendrakishor Ghosh, Medical Practitioner. Joined 'Yugantar' Party at (Jibanlal Chatterjee group) the age of 15. Was a College Student. Arrested in December, 1931, in connection with Telirbag Action. Sentenced to 5 years' R.I. in the trial that followed. Deported to the Cellular Jail Andamans. Participated in the first hunger strike there. 1933 May, duration—45 days. Repatriated and released. But detained in a camp. Afterwards from the camp was interned in home. Total Jail Period—6 years.

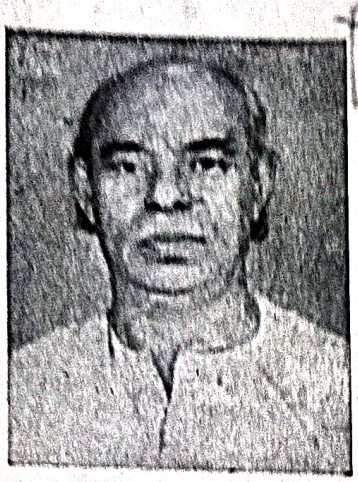


Parimal Chandra Ghosh



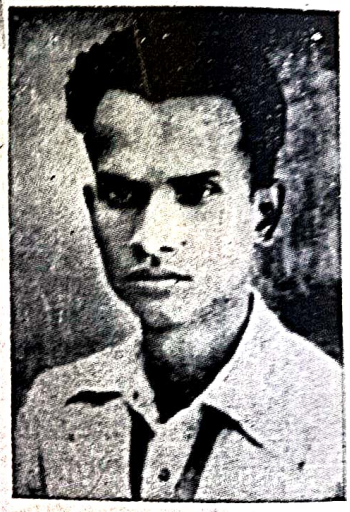
Annada Charan Paul

Annada Charan Paul son of Late Jagabandhu Paul. Born in 1908 at Chalakchar, Dacca now in Bangladesh member of Jugantor Party at the age of 17. Absconding period—about 3 years. Arrested in 1933 under Arms Act. and Conspiracy and shooting and tried by Special Tribunals in two separate cases and convicted for 7 years in each case, sentences to run concurrently. Was in Cellular Jail from 1934 to 1937 Took Part in the hunger strike in 1937 July 37 days. Total period in Jail six and half years and internment for about 1 year. Breathed his last in July 1981.



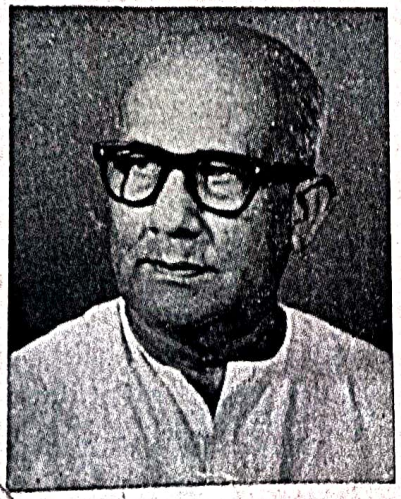
Barindra Nath Ghosh

Dhipur, Tangibari, Dacca. Joined Anushilan Samity. Convicted under Arms Act to four years' rigorous imprisonment. Deported to the Cellular Jail, Andamans. Participated in the first hunger strike there. 1933 May—duration 45 days. Released in 1935. Re-arrested and detained under B.C.L.A. Released from detention in 1938.



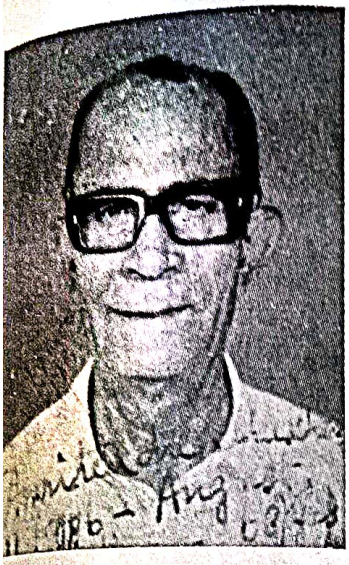
Bidhubhusan Guha Biswas

Born 1910. Dacca—(Bangladesh). S/o. Late Jogesh Chandra Guha Biswas, Mukhter in Dacca Bar. Joined 'Sree Sangha' at the age of 15 years. Passed intermediate Arts. Remained under ground for Party Works for about two years. Arrested in November, 1931 in Calcutta with weapons. Tried in Alipur Court and sentenced to 5 years R.I. (Rigorous Imprisonment). Deported to the Cellular Jail, Andamans. Participated in the first hunger strike there. 1933 May—duration 45 days. Repatriated and released. Total Jail Period 7 years.



Serajul Haque

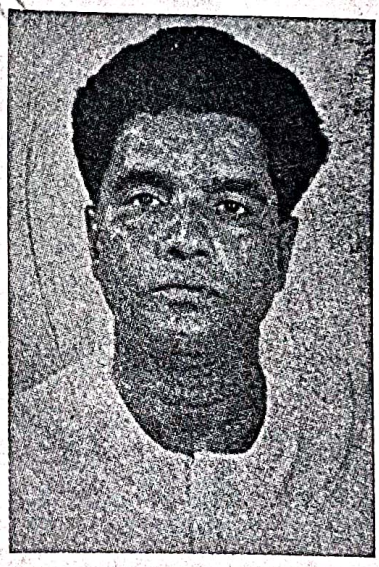
Born : 15.2.1907, Hoogly. S/o. Late Abdul Jalil—Govt. Service, Sub-Registrar. Left school during 'Non-Co-Operation' Movement. Came in touch with 'Yugantar' Party at the age of 17. Participated in 'Civil Disobedience' movement in 1930 and had to suffer imprisonment for three months. Arrested on 3.11.31 and convicted to 5 years' R.I. under Arms Act in Calcutta. Deported to the Cellular Jail, Andamans. Participated in the first hunger strike there. 1933 May—duration 45 days. Repatriated and released but was interned. Total Jail Period—About 6 years.



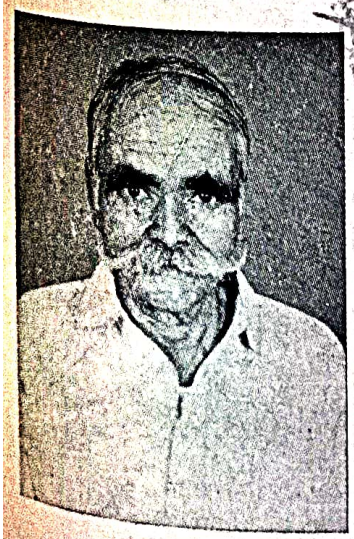
Amritendu Mukherjee

Born : 1908. Krishnanagar, Nadia. S/o Late Panchanan Mukherjee—Land owner. Came in contact with 'Yugantar Party' (Bepin Ganguly) in 1924. Participated in the Anti—British Student movement in 1921. Matriculated. Arrested at Krishnanagar on 10. 10. 34. Sentenced to five years R. I. under Arms Act. Participated in the second hunger strike in the Cellular Jail, Andamans—1937, July, duration 37 days. After release in 1939, twice arrested in 1940 and suffered six month's and three month's Confinement in Jail. Total Jail period more than five years.

Born : 4. 5. 1915—Beldakhan, Jhala Kathi, Barisal (Bangladesh). S/o Late Surendranath Das Gupta—Ayurvedic Physician. Joined the 'Yugantar Party' at the age of 14. Matriculated. Directly connected with two Actions in Barisal district. Arrested in June 1934 with revolver and Cartridges. Sentenced by the Special Magistrate, Barisal, to 5 years R. I. Deported to the Cellular Jail, Andamans. Participated in the second hunger strike there-1937-July-duration :37 days. Released 1939. Interned in 1940. Got a Conviction for 6 months for violating internment order. Total Jail Period about 6 years.

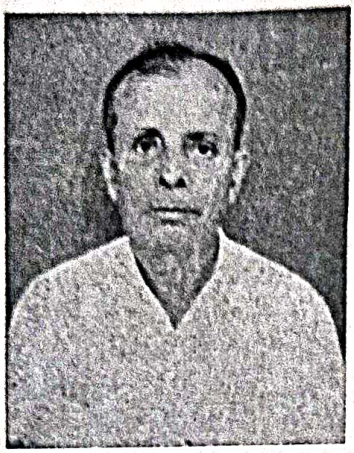


Nandalal Das Gupta



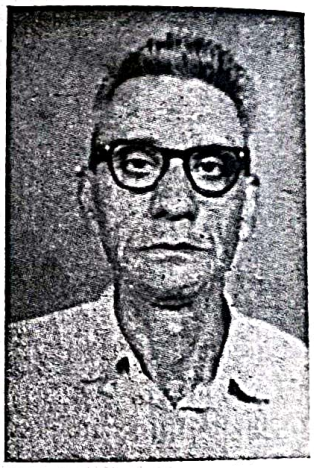
Prabhakar Biruni

Born : 17. 2. 1898—Maliara, Barjora, Bankura. S/o Late Shashibhusan Biruni. Agriculturist. Participated in the civil Disobedience Movement in 1930 and suffered imprisonment. Came in touch with 'Anushilan Samity'. Arrested 28-8-34 and convicted under Arms Act for 5 year's R. I. Deported to the Cellular Jail, Andamans. Participated in the second hunger strike there. 1937 July—duration 37 days. Released 1939. Died in 1976. Total Jail Period more than five years.



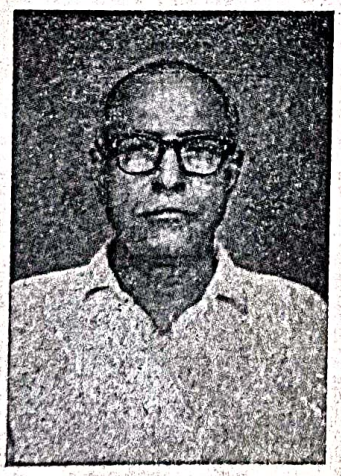
Susil Kumar Banerjee

Born : 1913, Howrah Town. S/o Late Satish Chandra Banerjee—business. Joined the revolutionary party at the age of 15 when he was a school student.
Arrested in Calcutta in 1933 and sentenced to 5 years, R.I. under Arms and Explosive Act. Previously suffered confinement in the Civil Disobedience movement in 1930 for about 2 years. Deported to the Cellular Jail Andamans. Participated in the second hunger strike there, 1937 July duration 37 days—Released in 1938. Total Jail period about seven years. He is no more in the living.



Ananta Chakraborty

Born : 1911, Bhawal, Dacca (Bangladesh) S/o Late Durga Mohan Chakraborty Amin of Bhawal estate.
At the age of 15 joined 'Anushilon Samity' when he was School Student. Went under-ground for Party work and for three years Police could not apprehend him. Finally arrested and sentenced to 5 years R.I. in 1933 deported to the Cellular Jail, Andamans. Joined the second hunger-strike there, 1937 July duration 37 days. Released in 1939. Total jail period more than 5 years.



Amulya Mitra

Born : 1909, Kakdi, Phulberia (Bangladesh) S/o Late Annada Charan Mitra, Land holder. Joined 'Anushilan Samity', while he was a School Student. Suffered 3 months imprisonment during Civil Disobidience movement. Remained under trial for 6 months in Conncetion with Tagore Estate gun-Snatching incident. Arrested in 1933 at Faridpur and sentenced to 6 years R.I. Deported to the Cellular Jail, Andamans. Participated in the second hunger strike there 1937 July duration 37 days. Released in 1938. After release was externed from Faridpur District, suffered another 6 months imprisonment in connection with quit India, Movement 1942, Total jail period about 7 years.

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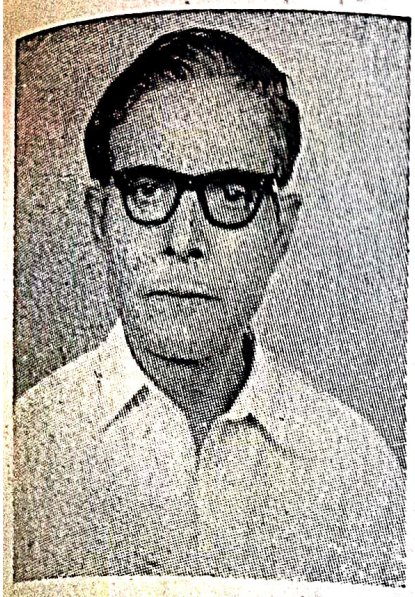

Sitangsu Datta Roy alias Khusu Datta Roy

Born : 1.7.1907. Dhaki—Mitamain, Mymansingh (Now in Bangladesh) S/o. Late Shibdas Datta Roy (Kunja Roy) Belonged to 'Yugantar' Party. Arrested on 14.4.32 and delained under B.C.L.A. in Hijli detention Camp. Was made an accused in the Graham, Dst. Majistrate shooting and conspiracy case and was sent up for trial at Netrokona. Sentenced to Six years' prison term. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail 1937, July, 37 days. Repatriated and released in 1938. Arrested and interned in his home for one year during "Quit India" Movement in 1942. Total Jail Period more than Seven years.

Dat=25.5.1998.

Born : 11.3.1907, Mymansing Town. (Now in Bangladesh) S/o. Late Narendra Kishore Roy. Belonged to 'Yugantar Party'. While a student of Post Graduate Class of Dacca University, he was the secretary of the Bengal Student Federation. Left the University during Civil Disobedience Movement 1930, and took part in the movement at Mymansing. Had to go underground after Police firing on Mass Pickters before the Government excise go-down. Arrested in November 1930 in connection Jamalpur Ferry Ghat shooting case along with Nagendra Chandra Deb. Both of them were sentenced to 5 years' Prison term. Deported to the Cellular Jail. Took Part in the first hunger strike in Cellular Jail 1933 May 45 days. Repatriated in 1936, August. Released but immediately arrested under B.C.L.A. Then interned in a remote Nadia village. Released from internment in 1938, Again served a prison term of about one year 1939-40. Total Jail period more than Eight years.

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Sudhindra Kumar Roy
alias Khoka Roy

Bidhubhusan Sen

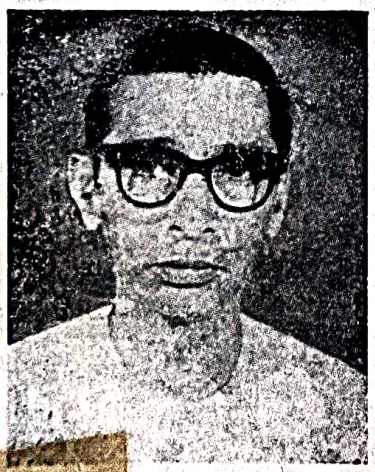
Born : 1909. Parchkahania, Mymansingh (Now Bangladesh) Belonged to 'Yugantar' Party. Remained underground for about one year. Arrested and sentenced to 5 years' Prison term in connection with Jamalpur Police Station shooting action. Deported to the Andamans. Remained incarcerated in the Cellular Jail for about one and one-half years. Repatriated on medical grounds. Re-arrested after release and detained till April 1938. Again arrested under D.I.R. in 1941 and was kept behind prisonbars till 1946. Total Jail Period about Ten years.

Probhat Kusum Ghosh

Born : 1916. Bhalash, Birbhum. S/o Late Jagadish Chandra Ghosh. Was graduate of Calcutta University. Remained underground for about a year before arrest. Arrested in connection with Birbhum Conspiracy case in late 1933. Sentenced to 7 years' Prison term. Deported to the Andamans. Participated in the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail there, July 1937—37 days. Repatriated in 1937. Released in 1939. Total Jail Period 6 years.

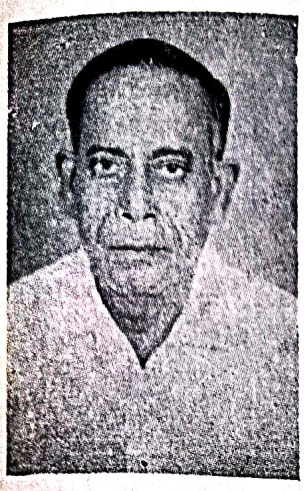
Prodyut Roychowdhury

Born : July 1913. Malhali, Kandi, Murshidabad. S/o. Late Suresh Roychowdhury. Was also called Sagar. While a school student arrested in Connection with Birbhum Conspiracy case on 2nd January 1934. Awarded four years' prison term. While serving the sentence Sagar thrased a Jail warder for his uncouth and rude behaviour. Sent up for trial in this case and was sentenced to six months' imprisonment. Deported to the Andamans in 1935. Participated in the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail—July 1937—37 days. Repatriated in 1937 and released in September 1938. Was a good writer in Bengali language. Breathed his last on 18th May—1977.



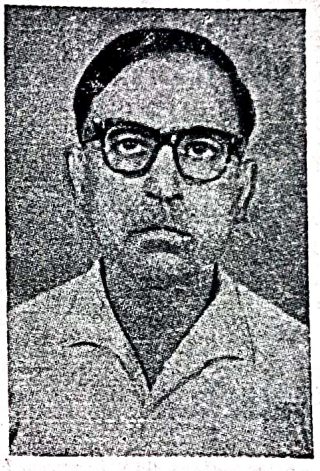
Jyotirmoy Roy

Born : 1911. Nagari, Birbhum. S/o. Late Banshidhar Roy. Matriculate, Associated with Hindustan Socialist Republican Army. Had close contact with Batukeswar Datta of Central Assembly Bomb Case (1929 April) Later came in contact with the Local Anushilan Samity branch. Arrested in connection with inter Provincial conspiracy case and Dynamite find case. Subsequently sent up for trial in Manbhum conspiracy case and was sentenced to a prison term of 7 years. Deported to the Andamans. Participated in the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail, Andamans 1937 July 37 days. Repatriated and released in 1939. Total Jail period about Seven years and underground life about two years.



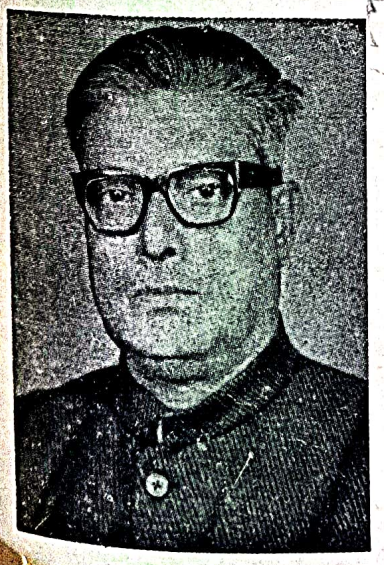
Rajatbhusan Dutta

Born : 7-5-1908. Ahmadpur, Birbhum. Read up to B.A. Degree course. Joined the Yugantar Party under Bipinbehari Ganguly group. Was married before arrest. Arrested in November 1933 in connection with Birbhum conspiracy case and sentenced to 12 years' transportation. Deported to the Andamans in November 1935. Participated in the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail, duration 37 days. After release in 1944 re-arrested under Defence of India rules. Total Jail Period 12 years. He is no move in the living.



Umasankar Kongar

Born : 1915. Bahari, Bolepur, Birbhum. S/o. Late Aditya Prasanna Kongar. Was an Intermediate student of Srerampur College at the time of arrest. Arrested in connection with Birbhum Conspiracy case in late 1933. Sent up for trial and was sentenced to five years' imprisonment. Deported to the Andamans in the fall of 1935. Participated in the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail there—1937 July Duration 37 days. Repatriated in 1937. Released in 1938. Previous served 6 months prison term in the Civil Disobedience movement in 1931-32. During world-war second was under interment. Total Jail Period about 6 years.

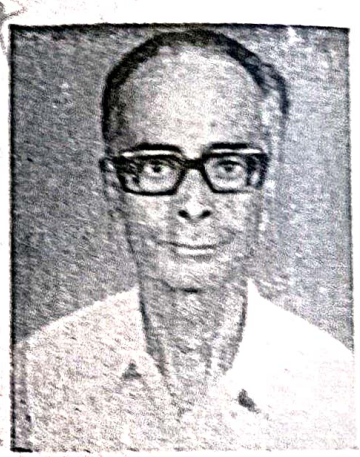


Haripada Banerjee

Born : 16th July, 1915. Asansole, Burdwan. S/o. Late Amritalal Banerjee. Matriculate, was a member of Yugantar Party under Bipinbehari Ganguly. Arrested in connection with Birbhum conspriacy case on 17 February 1934. Sentenced 5 years' imprisonment. Deported to the Andamans. Participated in the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail there July 1991—37 days. Repatriated and released in 1938. Remained confined in Jail during the second world-war (1930-45) for two years. Total Jail Period more than 6 years. He is no more in the living.

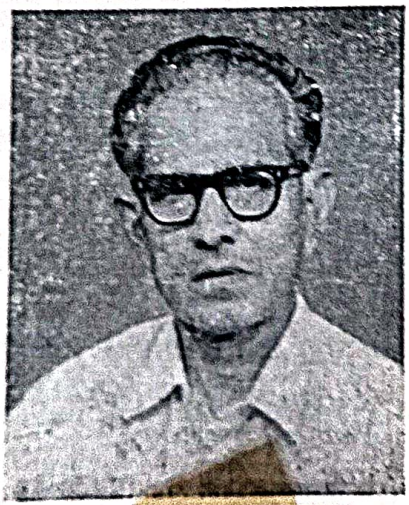
Nagendranath Dey

Born : 1917. Juzkhala, Chittagong. (Now in Bangladesh) Was a member of Anushilan Samity. Arrested in connection with Bathua Action and conspiracy case. Sentenced to a term of Ten years' imprisonment. Deported to the Andamans. Participated in the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail, Andamans July 1937—37 days. Repatriated and released in 1939. Total Jail Period about Six years.



Nagen Das Gupta

Born : 1916. Dinajpur Town. (Now in Bangladesh). Joined Yugantar Party at the age of 15. While was a student of Rangpur College, arrested in connection with Rangpur conspiracy case and was sentenced to a prison term of five and half years. Deported to the Andamans. Participated in the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail, Andamans, July 1937, 37 days. Repatriated and released in 1939. Total Jail period more than five years.



Birubhusan Chakraborty

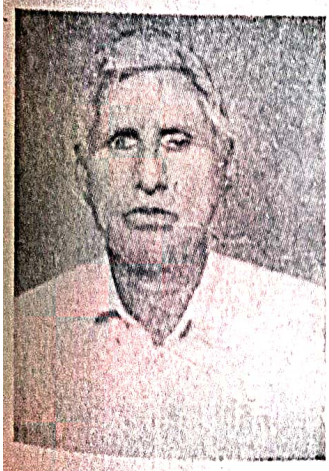
Born : 1918. Patnakhali, Barisal (Now in Bangladesh) S/o. Late Indubhusan Chakraborty a revolutionary Freedom Fighter, belonged to Yugantar Party. While was a student of college arrested in connection with Rangpur conspiracy case and was awarded a prison term of 7 years. Deported to the Andamans. Repatriated and released in 1939. Total Jail Period more than six years.

Dhiren Chowdhury

Born : 1905. Calcutta, Arrested in connection with Manicktola Mill Action. Case ensued against five persons and three of them were convicted on 10.12.31. He was sentenced to 5 years' prison term. He belonged to Anushilan Samity and his residence was a secret meeting place of the Party leaders. He was deported to the Andamans. Participated in the first hunger strike in Cellular Jail Andamans 1933 May—45 days. After release was under strict surveillance of the Intelligence branch of the Police department.

Born : 1911. Bhowanipur, Calcutta. S/o. Late Shashadhar Roy. Intermidiate student when arrested in connection with Manicktola Mill Action sentenced to 5 years prison term. Deported to the Andamans. Participated in the first hunger strike in Cellular Jail Andamans, 1933 May—45 days. After release kept under detention for about a year. Belonged to Anushilan Samity. He is no more in the living.

Kalipada Roy



Gopi Mohan Shaha

Born : 27.3. 1911, Brahmanbaria (Now Bangladesh) S/o. Late Pearimohan Shaha. Belonged to Yugantar Party. Arrested on 1st November 1932 in connection with Medda Action. Sentenced to 5 years' rigourous imprisonment. Deported to the Andamans. After release was served with interment order and was kept in his home under strict regulations on his movements and on association with acquaintances.

Lebong Race Course, Darjeeling Town. A number of Revolutionaries belonging to Bengal Volunteers arrived there to execute the extreme Punishment on Anderson, The then governor of Bengal on a day of February 1934. Anderson escaped death. Arrests followed. Seven persons were sent up for trial. They were: Bhabani Bhattacharya Sentenced to death. 2) Sm. Ujjala Mazumdar, 14 year R.I. and the following persons were awarded various terms of imprisonment and were deported to the Andamans. Another deportee was Rabi Banerjee whose photo could not be collected.

Manoranjan Banerjee

Born : 1915, Dacca (Now Bangladesh). S/o. Late Lalit Mohan Banerjee. Arrested in connection with Lebong Action. Trying court, special tribunal sentenced him to death. Commuted by High Court to life term. Deported to the Andamans. Participated in the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail, 1937, July—37 days. Repatriated in January 1938. Took Part in the hunger in 1937 July, 37 days. Released on 31st August, 1946. Total Jail period 13 years.

Madhu Banerjee

Born : 1910, March. S/o. Late Lalitmohan Banerjee. Arrested in connection with Lebong Action. Sentenced to a prison term of 14 years. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail, 1937 July, 37 days. Repatriated in January, 1938. Participated in the hunger strike of July, 1939, 36 days. Released in 1946. Total period 12 years.

Sushil Kumar Chakraborty

Born : 1915. Banari, Dacca (Now Bangladesh). S/o. Late Manmohan Chakraborty. Remained underground from 1932-1934. Arrested in connection with Lebong Action. Sentenced to a prison term of 12 years. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the second-hunger strike in Cellular Jail, 1937, July 37 days. Repatriated in January 1938. Released in 1939 Previously suffered imprisonment in the Civil Disobedience movement of 1930. Was interned in a village in 1942. Total Jail period about six years. He is no more in the living.

Sukumar Ghosh (Lantu)

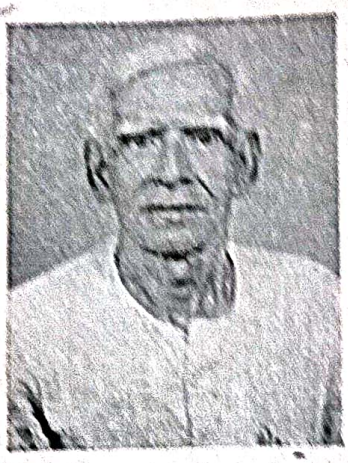
Born : 28. 11.1908. Subhadya, Dacca (Now Bangladesh) S/o. Late Protap Chandra Ghosh. Belonged to Bengal Volunteers Matriculate, Remained under-ground from 1932 to 1934. Government declared a handsome reward for his arrest. Arrested in July, 1934, in connection with Lebong Action (the then Governor Anderson shooting) Sentenced to 14 years' prison term. Deported to the Andamans. Participated in the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail, July, 1937, 37 days. Repatriated in January 1938. Detained as a security prisoner after the completion of the Prison term. Released in 1946. Total Jail period more than 12 years.

Phanibhusan Das Gupta

Born : 27th December, 1907. While a student came in contact with the 'Yugantar' Party Barisal group. While he was an editor of the Patriotic weekly 'Swadhinata', was arrested 1928. After release was again arrested in connection with Mechuabazar Bomb Case 1930. Detained and confined in Hijli detention Camp. Escaped from detention. Arrested in connection with Singa Action in 1934. Sentenced to transportation for life. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in hunger strike in Cellular Jail 1937, July. Repatriated and released earlier on health ground. Breathed his last on 12th February, 1943.

Sudhanshu Sen Gupta

Born : 7.10. 1914. Gaila, Barisal. S/o. Late Monoranjan Sengupta. Belonged to the 'Yugantar Party' Barisal group. Remained underground for about Six months before arrest in 1932 in connection with Arms and Explosives seizure. Sent up for trial and was sentenced to 7 years' imprisonment Deported to the Andamans. Participated in the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail, 1937 July, 37 days. Repatriated and released in 1939. Also undergone Jail term in the Civil Disobedience Movement of 1930. Total Jail period about eight years.



Prabir Kumar Goswami

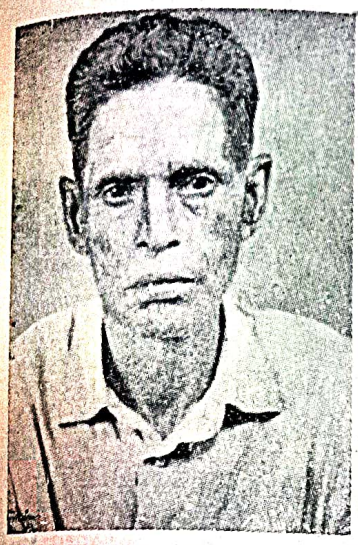
Mymanshing (Now in Bangladesh). Arrested and convicted under Arms Act to a long term prison sentence—12-11-32. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the hunger-strike in Cellular Jail in 1933, May—45 days and 1937, July—37 days. He fell victim to the brutal punishment of flogging in the Cellular Jail. He is no more in the living.

Bhupal Panda

Nandigram, Midnapore. Convicted to a prison term of five years under Arms Act 25-3-33. Deported to the Andamans. Participated in the second hunger strike in the Cellular Jail 1937, July—37 days. Repatriated in 1937 and released in 1938. After release devoted to Kisan movement. Again was kept in detention from 1942-1945.

Ananta Bhattacharya

Berhampur, Murshidabad. Convicted to a prison term of Six years under B.C.L.A (Bengal Criminal Law Amendment Act). Deported to the Andamans. Repatriated earlier on medical grounds. After release engaged himself in the student and Kisan movement of the day. He is no more in the living.

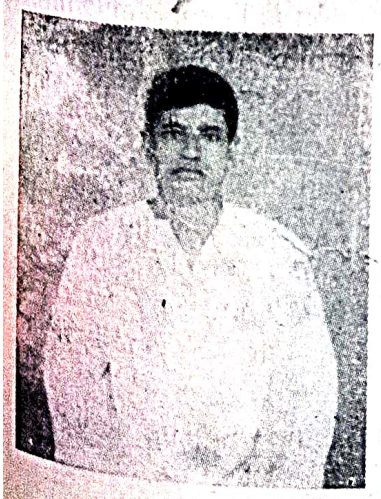


Ramesh Chandra Das

Born : 3-31-1908. Laukathi, Barisal (Now in Bangladesh) S/o. Late Akshoy Kumar Das. Belonged to Satin Sen group of 'Yugantar Party'. Remained underground for about a year. Arrested in 1933 in Calcutta with fire arms. Sent up for trial along with five others in case known as Karaiya Conspiracy case. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail in July, 1937—37 days. Repatriated in January 1938. Total Jail Period more than seven years. He is no more in the living.

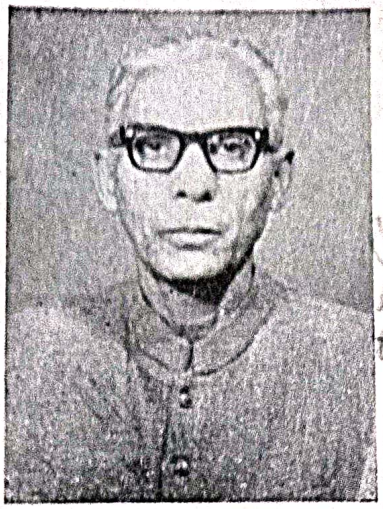
Atul Chandra Dutta

Hails from Faridpur. (Now in Bangladesh) Sentenced to a prison term of five years under Arms Act. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the second hunger strike in the Cellular Jail 1937 July—37 days. Repatriated in 1938 and released. He is no more in the living.



Gouranga Mohon Das

Sylet—Assam. Arrested in connection with an Armed Action—Itakhola Mail Action, Sylet—Assam and sentenced to a prison term for life—26-5-34. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the second hunger-strike in the Cellular Jail—1937, July, 37 days.

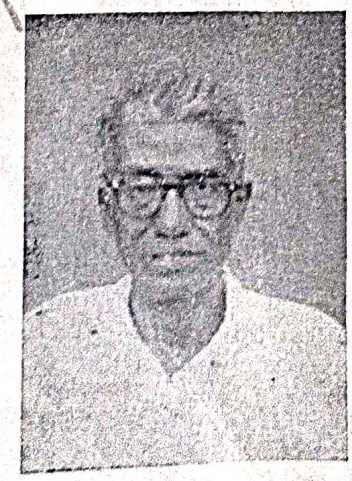


Sarada Prasanna Bose

Born : 1908. Carjana, Dacca (Now Bangladesh). S/o Late Narendramohon Bose—arrested When was a student of Intermediate Science. Belonged to "Sree Sangha". Sentenced to 8 years' Prison term in Ramchandrapur Mail Action. Deported to the Andamans. Participated in the second hunger strike in cellular Jail, Andamans—1937 July, 37 days. Repatriated in 1939. After release was arrested in 1940 and was confined in prison for about 3 years. Total Jail period more than nine years. He is no more in the living. His co-accused Gopal De and Chandrakanta Bhattacharya were also deported to the Andamans.

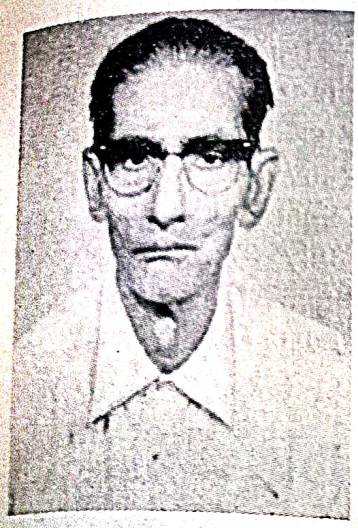
Chandra Kanta Bhattacharya

Born at Bidyakut, Tripura. Belonged to Anushilan Samity S/o Late Umesh chandra Bhattacharya. Arrasted in connection with Ramchandrapur Mail Action. Sentenced to 8 years' prison term. Deported to the Andamans. Participated in the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail—Andamans July 1937, 37 days. Repatriated in 1937. Released in 1938. Total Jail period Seven years. He is no more in the living.



Kalachand Chakraborty

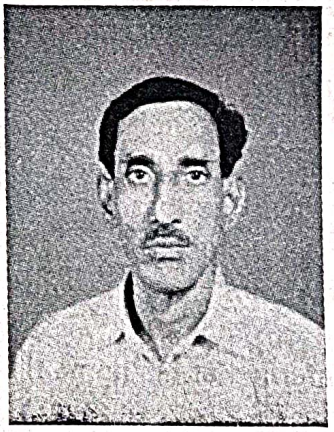
Born—1909. Solok, Barisal (Now in Bangladesh). S/o Late Haricharan Chakraborty. Belonged to Anushilan Samity. Arrested in connection with Inter Provincial Conspiracy case in 1933. Subsequently sent up for trial in Faridpur Bomb case, co-accused Jiban Molla. Sentenced to Ten years' Prison term. Deported to the Andamans. Jiban Molla was also deported. Participated in the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail—Andamans, 1937—July, 37 days. After release was arrested in 1940 and was externed from the greater Calcutta Industrial Belt. Escaped from Police custody while they were escorting him to Barisal. Remained underground till 1949. He is no more in the living.



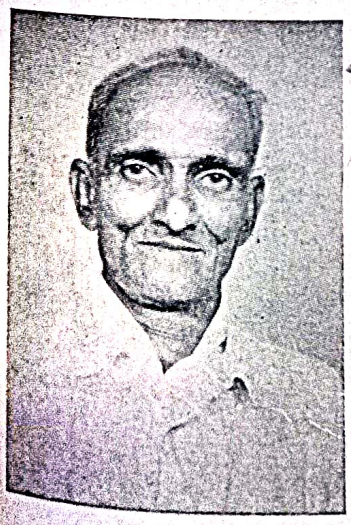
Abhoy Pada Mukherjee

Born 1907. Boalia, Ghoramara, Rajshahi Town (now in Bangladesh). S/o Late Ramapada Mukherjee. Belonged to Anushilan Samity. Prior to arrest remained under ground for about two years. Arrested and convicted under Arms Act to seven years. Deported to the Andamans. Participated in the two hunger strikes there—1933-May 45 days and 1937, July—37 days. Repatriated and released in 1939. Total Jail Period 7 years.

Born—1919. Bishnupur, Bankura. S/o Late Kesharaj Das Gupta. Belonged to Yugantar Party. Arrested in 1933 and was sentenced to a Prison term of five years under Arms Act. Deported to the Andamans. Participated in the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail—July 1937-37 days. Repatriated in 1937 and released in August in 1938. Total Jail period more than 5 years.

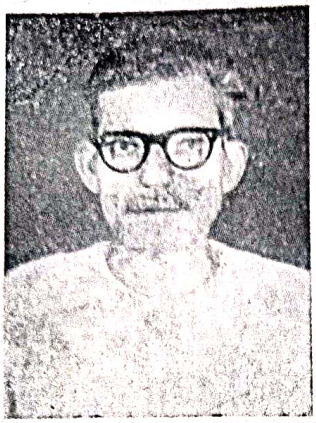


Sudhangsu Bhusan Das Gupta



Kartick Chandra De Das

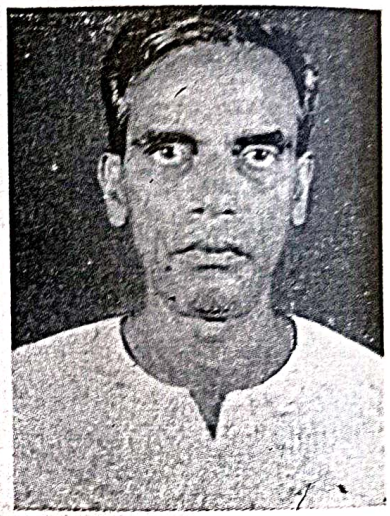
Born—1910. Lakutia, Barisal (now in Bangladesh). S/o Late Gopal chandra De. Joined 'Young League' under Sudhangshu Adhikari and Mani Singh at the age of 20. Arrested and sentenced to a Prison term of 5 years under Arms Act at Haripal. Deported to the Andamans. Total Jail Period 5 years and internment for about a year. Breathed his last in October 1976.



Mritunjoy Banerjee

Born—1912, Radhanagar Bankura. Served Six month's Prison term for Participating in the Civil Disobedience movement in 1932. Arrested in connection with Bishnupur Mail Action. Sentenced to Seven years' Prison term. Deported to the Andamans. Participated in the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail—1937, July, 37 days. Released in 1939 : Remained interned in home for one and half years in 1940 & Also in 1945. Total Jail Period more than six years.

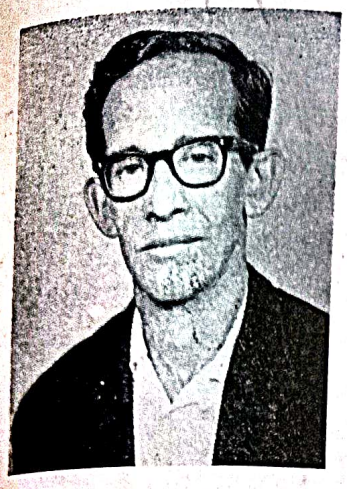
Born : 1906. Mekhal, Chittagong (Now in Bangladesh) S/o. Late Bama Charan Bhattacharya. Joined Anushilan Samity at the age of nineteen. Arrested in connection with Bathua Action and Conspiracy case on 26th February 1934. Fourteen Revolutionary Freedon Fighters were sent up for trial in this case. All were sentenced to various terms of imprisonment and were deported to the Andamans. He was awarded ten years' Prison term. Participated in the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail, July 1934; 37 days. Repatriated in January 1938. Released on 7.10. 1939 with a notice not to enter Chittagong. Took up teachership at Basirhat and was externed from there. Afterwards was interned at his home till 12.1. 1946.



Saradindu Bhattacharya

Monoranjan Chowdhury

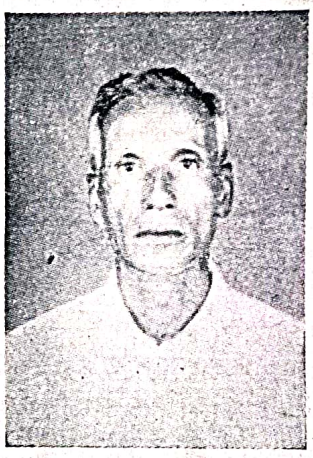
Born : 25.3.1916. Madarsa, Chittagong. S/o. Late Gobinda Chowdhury. Joined Anushilan Samity. Arrested in connection with Bathua Action and Conspiracy Case on 24th February, 1934. Sentenced to a Prison term of 7 years. Deported to the Andamans. Participated in the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail, July 1937, 37 days. Repatriated in 1938, January. Released in 1939.



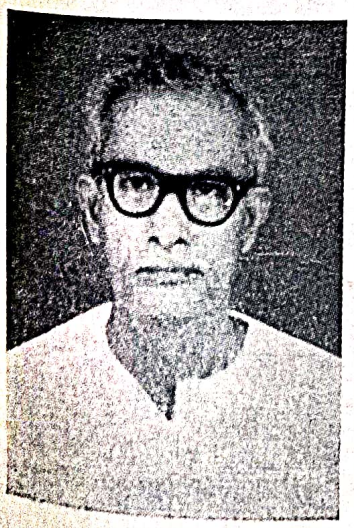
Kiritibhusan Mazumdar

Born—2nd March 1922. Kadurkhil, Chittagong, (Now Bangladesh). Belonged to 'Anushilan Samity'. S/o. Late Ramani Ranjan Mazumdar. Arrested in early 1934 in connection with Bathua Action and Conspiracy Case.S entenced to a prison term of 7 years R. I. Deported to the Andamans. Participated in the Second hunger strike in Cellular Jail—1937, July, 37 days. Repatriated in January 1938. Released in 1939. Total Jail period about 6 years.

Jibendra Das alias Durgadas Sikdar—Born 12th January —1911. Jaldi-Chittagong,). S/o. Late Biswambar Das. Belonged to 'Anushilan Samity'. Arrested on 24th February, 1934 in connection with Bathua Action and Conspiracy Case. Sentenced to Ten years' R. I. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail—1937, July, 37 days. Total Jail period about Six years.

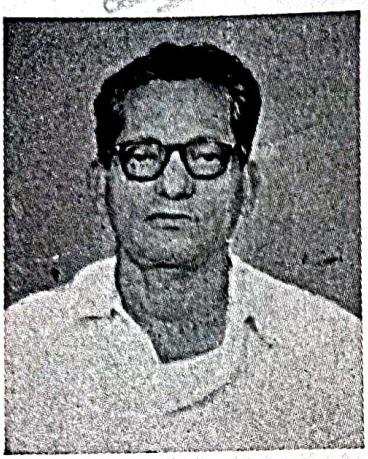


Jibendra Das



Arabinda De

Born : 19th June-1916. Roshangiri-Fatikchari-Chittagong. (Now Bangladesh). S/o. Late Srimanta Kumar De. Belonged to 'Anushilan Samity'. Arrested in February, 1934, in connection with Bathua Action and Conspiracy case. Sentenced to a long Prison term. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail in 1937, July, 37 days. Total Jail Period more than five years.

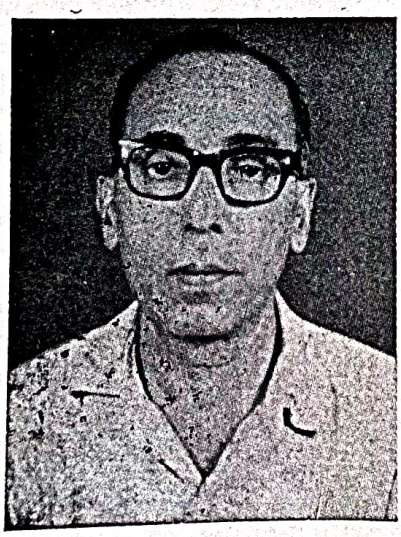


Hiramohon Chatterjee

Born—1914. Domsar, Faridpur. Settled in Barisal Town in early life. S/o. Late Raimohon Chatterjee. Belonged to 'Anushilan Samity'. Served Prison term during the Civil Disobedience Movement in 1930. Arrested in May 1931, in connection with Zilla School Action Case. Convicted to a Prison term of 7 years in August 1931. Deported to the Andamans in December 1932 Took Part in the first hunger strike in Cellular Jail in May 1933, 45 days. Repatriated in July 1937. Total Jail Period about eight years and remained under restrictive order for about two years.

Bimalendu Chakraborty

Born : 10th October 1913. Bajra-Joni-Atpara, Dacca (Now in Bangladesh). S/o. Late Hem Chandra Chakraborty. Matriculated. Belonged to 'Anushilan Samity'. Remained underground from August 1930 to November 1931. Arrested in connection with Zilla School Action Case on 23rd November 1931 at Barisal. Sentenced to 7 years' Prison term. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the first hunger strike in Cellular Jail—May 1933, 45 days. On health ground, repatriated after two years of incarceration in Cellular Jail. Served the rest of the Prison term in Mainland Jail. Total Jail period more than six years.

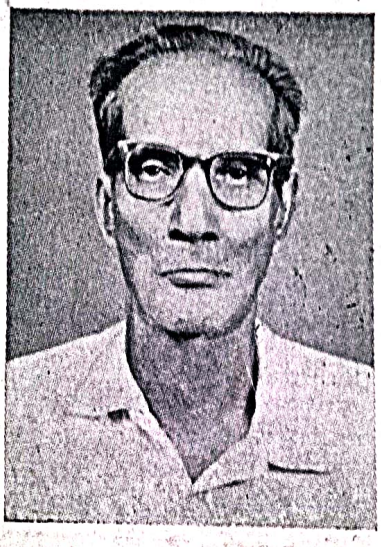


Bankim Chakraborty

Born—25th March 1911 Agartala, Tripura. S/o. Late Pratap Chandra Chakraborty. Belonged to 'Yugantar Party'. Remained underground for about one year—April 1931 to May—1932. Arrested with a fire arm on 6.5. 1932. Sentenced to 5 years' Prison term under Arms Act. Kamini De was his co-accused and was sentenced to 5 years' Prison term. Both of them were deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the first hunger strike in Cellular Jail—May 1933, 45 days. After repatriation and release in 1937 was interned at Narayangarh, Midnapore Dt. for about Two years. Total Jail period more than five years.

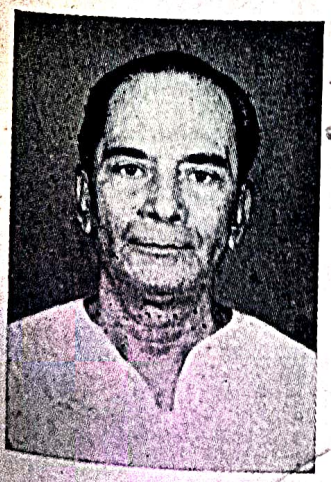
Hriday Kanta Das

Hriday Kanta Das son of late Rati Kanta Das. Born in 1911 at Korakadi, Faridpur now in Bangladesh. Read upto I. A. class. A member of Anushilan Samity at the age of 17. Arrested in April 1932 in connection with Faridpur Conspiracy case on 13-4-32 and convicted for 5 years on 23-12-32 was in Cellular Jail for about four years and one year nine months in Bengal Jails. Internment for more than one year. Breathed his last on 14th August—1964.



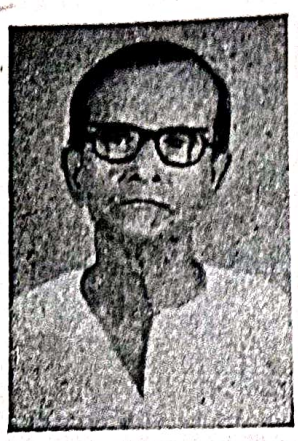
Rabindra Nath Guha

Rabindra Nath Guha son of late Biswanath Guha. Born at Ramkantapur, Faridpur now in Bangladesh. Read upto I.A. class. A member of Anushilan Samity at the age of 17. Arrested in August 1932 in connection with Faridpur Conspiracy case and convicted for 6 years. Was in Cellular Jail for 3 years, eight months. Participated in the hunger-strike 1937, July—Released by the end of 1938. Total Jail period more than 7 years including internment.



Sachindra Nath Mitra

Sachindra Nath Mitra son of late Sarat Chandra Mitra. Born at Gourdia, Faridpur now Bangladesh. A member of Anushilan Samity at the age of 16. Arrested in 1932 in connection with Faridpur Conspiracy case and convicted for 5 years by a Special Majistrate at Faridpur. Was in Cellular Jail for about 4 years. Total period in jail—7 years 9 months. He is no more in the living.

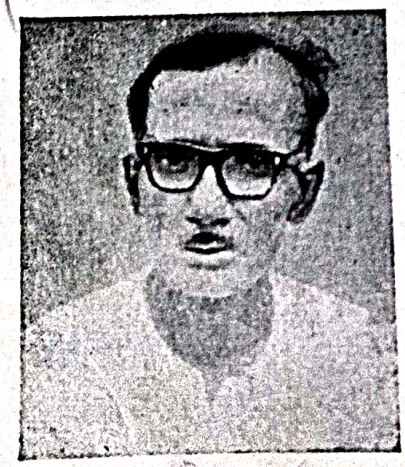


Narendra Chandra Ghosh

Born : 14th April, 1911. Dinajpur Town (Now Bangladesh) S/o. Late Durgadas Ghosh. Belonged to 'Yugantar' Party. Remained underground for about four years before his arrest in June 1935. Sent up for trial in connection with two Actions. Sentenced to fifteen years' Prison term. Deported to the Andamans. Participated in the second hunger-strike in Cellular Jail--July, 1937, 37 days. Repatriated in January—1938. Released in August 1946. Total Jail Period more than eleven years.

Nani Gopal Das

Born : 1st January, 1916. Patiram-Balurghat--West Dinajpur. S/o. Late Krishnadas Mahanta—a Patriotic village gentry who suffered during the Non-co-operation and Civil Disobedience Movement. Belonged to 'Anushilan Samity'. Arrested in connection with Bolla Action in 1934. Sentenced Seven years' Prison term in 1935, February. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail—July 1937, 37 days. Total Jail period about Seven years.

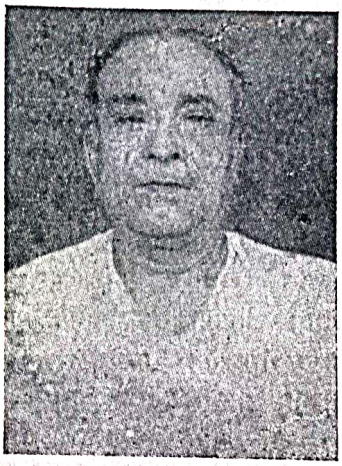


Akshay Kumar Chowdhury

Born : Kaitara, Batun, W. Dinajpur. S/o Late Pratapchandra Chowdury. Belonged to "Yugantar Party". Arrested in connection with Bolla Action. Sentenced to Ten years' prison term. Deported to the Andamans. Took part in the second-hunger-strike in Cellular Jail—July, 1937, 37 days. Total Jail period more than six years. He is no more in the living.

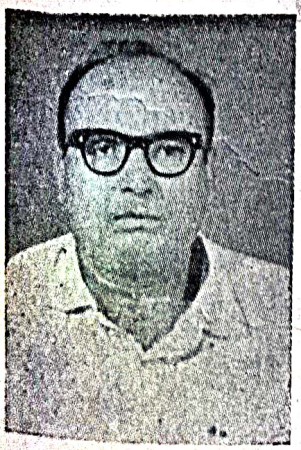
Rajendranath Chakraborty

Born : 1900. Shaora, Gournadi, Barisal (Now Bangladesh). S/o, Late Mohonbansi Chakraborty. Arrested in 1933 in connection with Agalpasha Action. Sentenced to Ten years' Prison term. Deported to the Cellular Jail. Took Part in the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail—July, 1937, 37 days. Home interned after release. Breathed his last on 7.3.78. Total Jail period more than Seven years.



Narendranath Das

Born at Rangpur (Now Bangladesh). Matriculate. Belonged to Bengal Volunteers'. Arrested in October 1933 in connection with Kurigram Train Action. Sent up for trial. Sentenced to eight years' Prison term. Deported to the Andamans in July—1934. Took Part in the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail—July, 1937, 37 days. Repatriated and released in June, 1939. Total Jail period about six years.

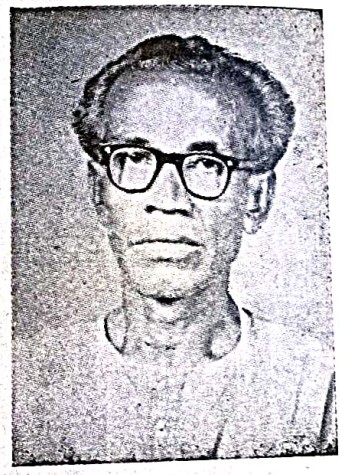


Nagendra Mohon Mustafi

Born : 1915. Bamanpara, Kharia, Jalpaiguri. S/o. Late Krishnendra Mohon Mustafi. Belonged to 'Yugantar' Party. Arrested in connection with Gaibanda Conspiracy Case and was sentenced to Seven years' prison term. Remained underground for about one year before arrest. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail—July, 1937, 37 days. Repatriated and released. Took Part in the 'quit India' movement—1942. Total Jail Period about Seven years.

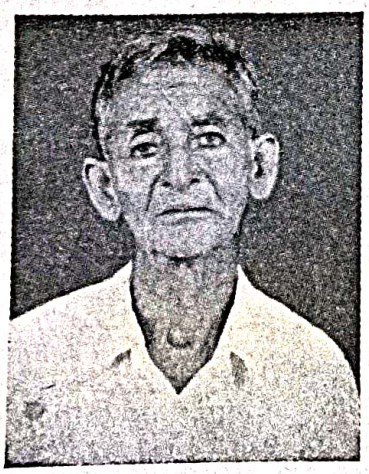
Dinesh Chandra Das

Born : 1906. Lakhmia, Pakundia, Mymansingh (Now in Bangladesh). S/o. Late Mahesh Candra Das. Belonged to 'Yugantar' Party. Arrested in 1931 October. Convicted and deported to the Andamans. Before arrest remained underground for about two years. Remained in Prison for 5 years and after release had to stay at home for one year under internment order.



Kumudini Ghosh

Born : 1911. Kanlialshi, Khaspur, West Dinajpur. S/o. Late Rajani Kanta Ghosh. Belonged to 'Yugantar' Party. Arrested on 15th April, 1934. Convicted to Ten years' Prison term. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the second hunger strike in the Cellular Jail, 1937, July, 37 days. Previous to this term of sentence undergone imprisonment during the Civil Disobedience Movenment in 1932 for Six months. Total Jail period Six years.



Ramendranath Samajdar

Born : 1904. Chakilam, Dhamairhat, Rajshahi (Now in Bangladesh). S/o. Late Ramratan Samajdar. Belonged to 'Anushilan Samity'. Remained underground for about a year. Served Prison terms during C. D. Movement in 1930-31 twice, each term six months. Arrested and Convicted to 10 years and 5 years' R. I. to run Concurrently, in connction with Porsha, Tilni and Kakna Actions. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the second hunger strike in the Cellular Jail, 1937, July, 37 days. Total Jail Period more than Seven years.

Born : 10. 10. 1912. Munshiganj, Dacca Passed his boyhood in Narayanganj (Now in Bangladesh). Came in contact with Anushilan Samity in his early tees. Served prison term in late 1930 during the Civil Disobedience movement. On release from prison was interned in his home. Violated the internment order and went underground in 1933. While trying to break through a Police Cordon with Hari Kumar Chakraborty of Comilla, he was wounded from Police fireing and was arrested. In the subsequent trial he was awarded five years' prison term. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the second hunger strike in the Cellular Jail—1937, July, 37 days. Repatriated and released in 1938. Arrested in 1940 and was given one years' prison term for violating section 144. In 1946 he had to go underground as an warrant of arrest was issued against him in connection with a labour strike in Narayanganj. He has written severeal books which have evoked deep appreciation amongst the Patriotic reading public. To his last days he remained in Rangladesh. Breathed his last on 7th February, 1982 in Dacca. Total Jail Period more than Seven years.

Anil Mukherjee

Born:—1904 Fatehabad Chittagong. Belonged to 'Anushilan Samity' S/o Late Durgacharan Chakraborty Arrested and convicted in connection with Bathua Action and conspiracy case on 27. 8. 34 to 25 years' prison term. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the second hunger-strike in the Cellular Jail, 1937, July, 37 days and another one in Alipur Central Jail, 1939, July, 36 days. Repatriated in January 1938 and released in 1946, August. Total Jail period Thirteen years.

Mokshada Chakraborty

Priyada Chakraborty

Fatehabad, S/o Late Durgacharan Chakraborty, Chittagong. Younger brother of Mokshada Chakraborty convicted in the Bathua Action and conspiracy case to 25 years' prison term. Deported to the Andamans. Took part in the second hunger-strike in Cellular Jail—1937, July, 37 days and another one in Alipur Central Jail in 1939, July, 36 days. Repatriated in January, 1938. Released in 1946, August. Total Jail Period Thirteen years. He is no more in the living.

Nani Das Gupta

Bon : 1912, Beldakha, Barisal (Now in Bangladesh) c/o Late Jogesh Chandra Dasgupta. was a student of Daulal. pur Collage—Degree course. Went underground in con. nection with Seinga Action. Subsequently arrseted anc convicted to 10 years' R. I. under Arms Act. Deported tc the Andamans. Took part in the second hunger-strike ir the Cellular Jail, 1937, July, 37 days. Repatriated ir January, 1938. Total Jail period about eight years. Brea thed his last in 1956.

Born : 1906. Madaripur, Faridpur (Now in Bangladesh) S/o Late Harinath De. Arrested and convicted in 1934, under Arms Act and conspiracy case to 5 years' R. I. Deported to the Andamans. Took part in the second hunger-strike in the Cellular Jail, 1937, July, 37 days. Repatriated and released in 1938. Went underground in late 1939. Later arrested and interned at Hilli, from internment he assisted Lokanayak Jaiprakash & Aruna Asafali in organisational work. Arrested from internment and kept detained in prison till 1945. Total Jail period more than seven years. Breathed his last on 26th December—1981.

Kripananth De

Kaumadi Kanta Bhattacharya

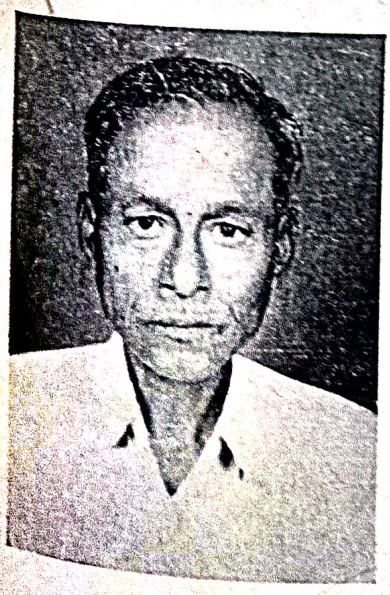
Born : 1917. Pratau, Nalchiti, arisal (Now in Bangladesh S/o Late Rohini Kanta Bhattacharya. Belonged to 'Yugar tar Party'. Convicted for six months under Section 10 I. P. C. and subsequently for 5 and Six months in the KB Mail Action. Deported to the Andamans in Decembe 1932. Took part in the first hunger-strike in the Cellul Jail—1933 May, 45 days. After release had to remain cor fined at home under internment order. Total Jail perio more than six years.

Gnanada Gobinda Gupta

Born : 19. 8. 1916. Maliganiti, Serajganj, Pabna (Now Bangladesh). S/o. Late Barada Gobinda Gupta. Belonged to 'Yugantar Party'. Served 6 months' Prison term in the Civil Disobedience movement in 1930. Arrested in connection with Naldanga Action on 20. 10. 1933. Awarded Ten years' Prison term in the case. Deported to the Andamans. Took part in the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail July, 1937. 37 days. Total Jail Period more than eight years.

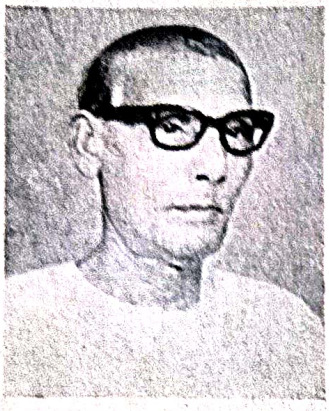
Haridas Shaha

Born : 26th March, 1911. Gaibandha, Rangpur (Now Bangladesh). S/o. Late Lalmohon Saha. Matriculate. Belonged to 'Yugantar Party'. Arrested in connection with Naldanga Action in October, 1933. Awarded 6 years' Prison term in the Action and another Six years' Prison term under Arms and Explosives substance Act sentences to run concurrently. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail, July, 1937—37 days. Total Jail Period Six years.



Jogesh Chandra Das

Born : 24th July, 1917. Gaibandha, Rangpur (Now Bangladesh). Belonged to 'Yugantar' Party. Arrested in December 1934. Sent up for trial under Arms Act. The case is known as Gaibandha Conspiracy. There were six persons in the trial. All were awarded various terms of sentence. Four were deported to the Andamans. Jogesh Chandra was sentenced Five years' Prison term. Deported to the Andamans. Took part in the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail—July, 1937, 37 days. Total Jail Period—five years.

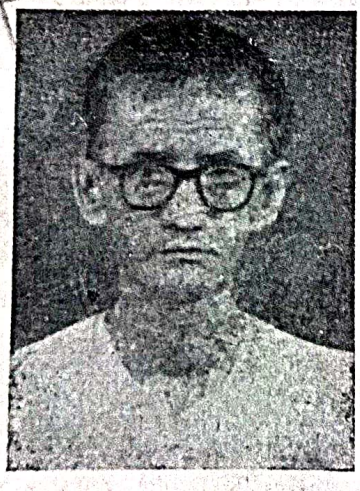


Durgasankar Das

Born : 1908. Chandsi-Barisal (Now in Bangladesh) while a school student Participated in the C. D. Movement in 1930. Joined 'Santi Sena'—(Purna chandra Das). Arrested in Calcutta—1931. Sentenced to a Prison term of 5 years under Explosive substance Act. Deported to the Andamans—1933. Repatriated and released in 1937. Total Jail period about six years.

Usharanjan De

Born : 1914. Saldah—Faridpur—(Now in Bangladesh) S/o. Late Purna chandra De. Belonged to 'Anushilan Samity'. Arrested in connection with Maniktala Arms find and Conspiracy Case. Sentenced to a prison term of five years. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the hunger strike in the Cellular Jail in July, 1937, 37 days. Repatriated in 1937 and released in 1938. Total Jail period about Six years.



Haran Khangar

Birbhum.
Arrested in connection with Birbhum Conspiracy Case. Sentenced to a prison term of 6 years—23-9-34. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the hunger strike in the Cellular Jail in July, 1937, 37 days. Repatriated in 1937. Released in 1939. He is no more in the living.

Sudhindra Nath Bhattacharjee

Born : 25.8.1910, Sagarpara—Rajshahi Town (Bangladesh) S/o Late Chandranath Bhattacharya, Pleader. Joined 'Yugantar Party' (Bepin Ganguly) at the age of 17. Was 4th year B.A. Student. Suffered 3 months imprisonment in Civil Disobedience movement, 1930. Also arrested and kept confined in Connection with Bogura postal Action and North Bengal conspiracy case. Afterwords arrested in Calcutta on 14.1.34 and sentenced to 5 years. R.I. Awarded another 9 months, imprisonment in Alipur Central Jail for hunger strike. Deported to the Cellular Jail Andamans. Released in 1938 from Alipur Central Jail on Medical grounds. Total Jail period—about 6 years.

Born : 1910, Calcutta. S/o Late Probodh Chandra Mitra businessman. At the age of 18 came in contact with the 'Yugantar Party', was a diploma holder of Society of Engineers (India).

Arrested in Calcutta with Arms. Sentenced by the special Majistrate to 10 years imprisonment on 31.1.34 Deported to the Cellular Jail, Andamans. Joined the second hunger strike there. 1937 July duration 37 days. Released in 1939. Died on 3.3.73. Total Jail Period more than 5 years.

Ajit Kumar Mitra

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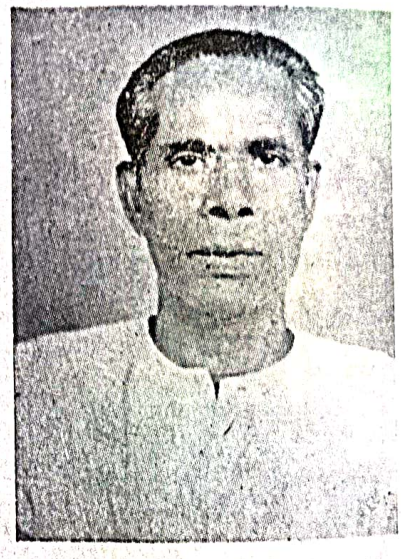
Bimal Bhowmick

Born : 1918, Nilphamari, Rangpur (Bangladesh) S/o Late Abala Mohan Bhowmick—businessman. When a School Student came in touch with 'Yugantar Party', Convicted to 6 years R.I. under Arms Act in 1934. Deported to the Cellular Jail, Andamans. During his trial, the police not only harrased his family but also caused extensive damage to their house. Participated in the second hunger strike—1937 July. Duration 37 days, Released 1939. Total Jail Period more than 5 years.

Ajoy Sinha

Born : 1915, In Calcutta, S/o Late Ramesh Chandra Sinha Deputy Magistrate. Joined 'Anushilan Samity' in 1929, was a school student. Had contact with 'Yugantar Party' and 'Srisangha' Arrested in 1933 in Calcutta with arms. Sentenced to 10 years R.I. Deported to the Cellular Jail, Andamans. Participated in the second hunger strike there, July 1937 duration 37 days. Repatriated in January 1938. Released 1939. Arrested in 1940 at Bhadreshwar—Dist. Hoogly and convicted to 2 years R.I. for distributing Seditious leaflets Total Jail period Nine years. Died 1977.



Sudhangshu Ranjan Das Gupta

Born : 1.1.1916, Bharukathi, Jhalakathi, Barisal (Bangladesh) S/o Late Aswini Kumar Das Gupta. Ayurvedic Physician Read upto Intermediate. Joined 'Yugantar Party' at the age of 12. Arrested in Civil Disobedience movement, 1930, and suffered three months, R.I. in 1933, December, arrested in connection with the Bharukathi Bomb Action and was sentenced to 5 years R. I. Deported to the Cellular Jail, Andamans. Participated in the second hunger strike there. 1937 July duration 37 days. Repatriated in November 1937 and released in 1938. Total Jail Period more than 5 years.

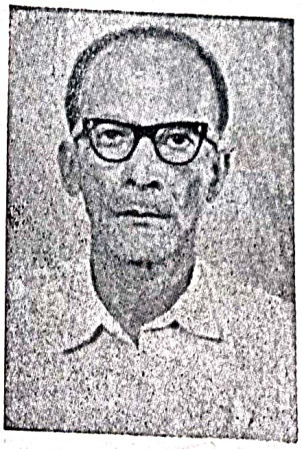
Kartick Chandra Sarker

Born : 1918, Tarash, Pabna, (Bangladesh) S/o Late Mukunda Chandra Sarker—Jotedar. When he was a school student Joined the 'Anushilan Samity'. Arrested in 1933 and Sentenced to 4 years and 8 years R.I. by special Magistrate Rajshahi and Midnapore respectively under sections 506 Cr. Pc. Also suffered imprisonment during Civil Disobedience movement. Deported to the Cellular Jail, Andamans. Repatriated in 1937. Released in 1938. Total Jail Period more then 5 years.

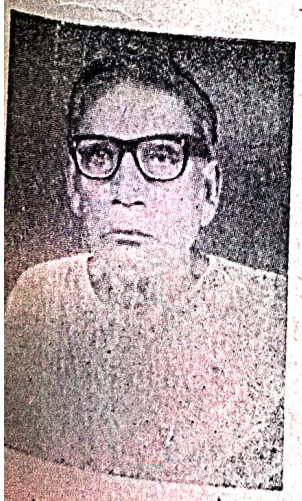
Satyendra Kumar Basu

Satyendra Kumar Basu son of Late Harendra Kumar Basu. Born in 1908 at Maheswarpally, Faridpur now in Bangladesh. Matriculate. A member of Jugantar Party. Arrested under Arms Act, tried by the Chief Presidency Magistrate, Calcutta and convicted for 5 years in 1932. Deported to Cellular Jail and was there for 2 years. Participated in the hunger strike 1933, May 45 days. Released after serving full term. Breathed his last in November 1981.

Monoranjan Guha Thakurta son of Late Nishi Kanta Guha Thakurta. Born in 1908 at Noakhali now in Bangladesh. Graduate, member of Jugantar Party at the age of 14. Arrested in January 1932 under Arms Act, tried and convicted for 5 years by the Chief Presidency Magistrate, Calcutta. Deported to Cellular Jail in the first batch in 1932. Participated in the hunger strike 1933, May 45 days. Total Period of suffering 6 years including more than 5 years in Andamans and then in mainland jails and in internment.
His maternal uncle was Kshitish Chandra Ray Chowdhury- a freedom fighter of repute in the first world war Period Breathed is last in February 1982.



Monoranjan Guha Thakurta

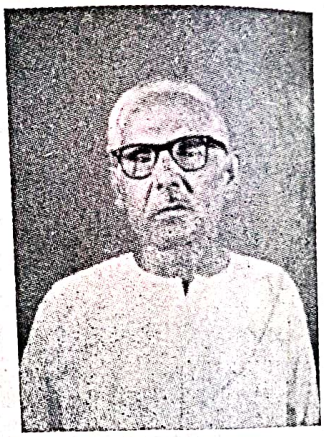


Jamini Kumar Dey

Jamini Kumar Dey son of Late Kailash Chandra Dey. Born in 1897 at Patuair, Mymensingh now in Bangladesh. A member of Anushilan Samity at the age of 19. Absconding period of about 2 years. Arrested in 1932 and convicted to 8 years, R.I. Deported to Cellular Jail, Andamans. Was there for about 5 years. Participated in hunger strike 1937, July, 37 days.

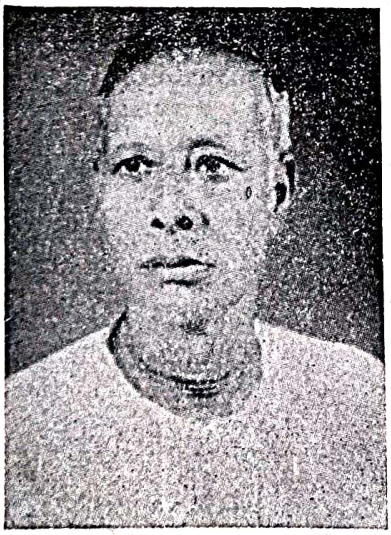
Jogendra Chakraborty

Jogendra Chandra Chakraborty son of Late Debendra Nath Chakraborty. Born at Nitabkandi, Mymensingh now in Bangladesh. A member of Jugantar Party at the age of 14. Arrested in September 1932 and convicted for 5 years in Kamalpur action. In Cellular Jail for three and a half years and an year and a half in mainland jails. He is no more in the living.



Birendra Chandra Lahiri

Birendra Chandra Lahiri son of Late Ram Chandra Lahiri, a Sanskrit scholar and teacher. Passed I. Sc and I. M. F. from Dacca University. Born in 1902 at Usthi, Mymensing now in Bangladesh. Arrested and convicted for 10 years in Kamalpur action. More than 6 years in Cellular Jail and mainland jails. Participated in the hunger strikes, 1933, May and 1937 July, 45 & 37 days. He is no more in the living.



Sreedhar Goswami

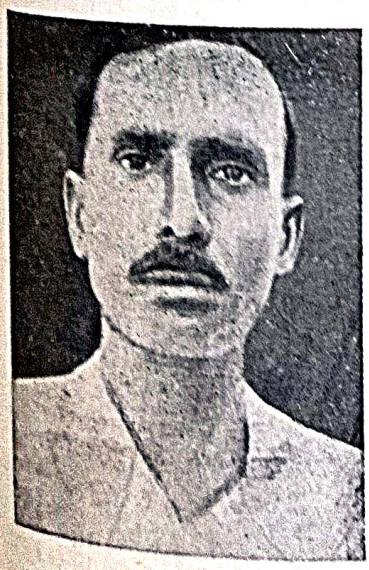
Sreedhar Goswami son of Late Dharanidhar Goswami. Born at Sarishapur, Mymensingh now in Bangladesh in 1906. A member of Jugantar Party at the age of 15. Arrested and convicted in Kamalpur action by a Special Tribunal for 7 years. 3 years in Cellular Jail and more than 2 years in mainland jails. Participated in the hunger strike in 1937 July 37 days. He is no more in the living.

Rakhal Das Mullick

Rakhal Das Mullick, son of late Keshab Chandra Mullick. Born in Calcutta. First term jail in 1921 Non-Co-operation movement. A member of Jugantar Party. Arrested in 1933 and convicted under Arms Act for 5 years and sent to the Andamans. Participated in the hunger-strike July 1937–37 days. Gave shelter to late Sachin Kar Gupta, Dinesh Mojumder and Sushil Das Gupta after their escape from Midnapore Jail.

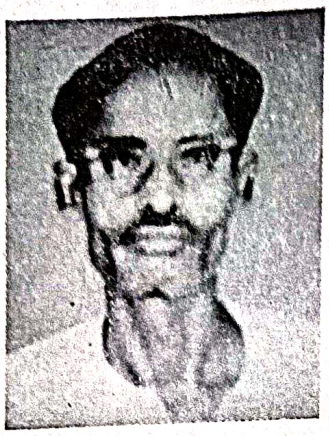
Kamala Kanta Sreemani

Kamala Kanta Sreemani son of late Uday Narayan Sreemani. Born at Purbanapara, Makardah Howrah in 1900. Arrested and convicted for 6 years under Arms Act and another 9 moths for breaking jail laws and deported to Andamans. In jail for about 5 years.



Mahendra Chandra Bhowmick

Mahendra Chandra Bhowmick son of late Chandra Kumar Bhowmick. A member of Jugantar Party at the age of 14. Arrested in 1932 in connection with Kuliarchar action and convicted for 6 years by a Special Tribunal and deported to Cellular Jail. Total period in jail—4 years in Cellular Jail and 2 years in mainland jails. Breathed his last on 22nd July—1968.



Debendra Chandra Talukdar

Debendra Chandra Talukdar son of late Ramendra Talukdar. Born in Netrakona, Mymensingh now in Bangladesh in 1905. Matriculate. A member of Anushilan Samity at the age of 14. Arrested in January 1932 in connection with Soarikandapara action and convicted for 7 years by a Special Majistrate at Netrakona. Sent to Cellular Jail in December 1932. Released after serving full term. Living no more.

Dhirendra Chandra Chakraborty

Dhirendra Chandra Chakraborty son of late Gaur Chandra Chakraborty. Born in Sararchar, Mymensingh now in Bangladesh in 1903. A member of Anushilan Samity in the age of 18. Arrested in January 1932 in connection with Soarikandapara action and convicted for 7 years by a Special Magistrate in Netrakona. Sent to Cellular Jail in December 1932. Released after servicing full term.

Hrishikesh Basu

Born : 1917, Calcutta, S/o Late Gajendra Mohan Basu. Arrested in 1932 under Arms and Explosives Act. Sentenced to 5 years' Prison term. For Violating Jail code was awarded a further term of 2 and one-half years. Deported to the Andamans. Took part in the second hunger-strike in the Cellular Jail, 1937, July, 37 days. Repatriated in 1937. Released in 1938. Remained underground during the 'Quit India' movement in 1942, for a year.

Chintaharan Das

Chinta Haran Das son of late Dinabandhu Das. Born in 1900 at Manakhan, Faridpur now in Bangladesh. A member of Anushilan Samity at the age of 18. Arrested and convicted in 1935 for 5 years by a Special Tribunal in connection with Maniktala Arms-Find Conspiracy Case and deported to Andamans. 3 years in Cellular Jail and about 1 year in mainland jails.

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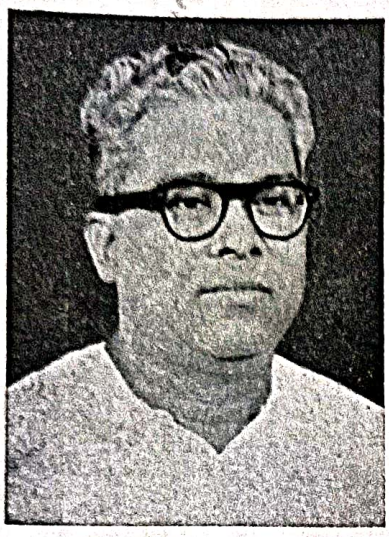
Prafulla Kumar Biswas

Born : 1911—Saldah, Faridpur (Now in Bangladesh) Son of Late Umesh Chandra Biswas, Matriculate. A member of Anushilan Samity at the age of 17. Arrested and convicted for 6 years in connection with Maniktala Arms-Find Conspiracy case. Six months during C. D. movement. Took Part in the second hunger-strike in the Cellular Jail, 1937, July, 37 days. Repatriated in 1937 and released in 1938. Total Jail Period about six years.

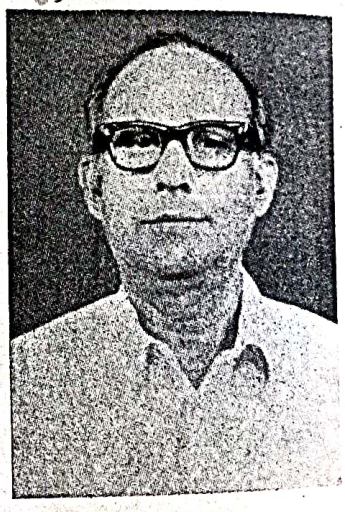
Sudhir Kumar Roy

Sudhir Kumar Roy. Born in 1922 at Saldah, Faridpur now in Bangladesh. A member of Anushilan Samity at the age of 14. Arrested and convicted in 1935 by a special Tribunal in connection with Maniktala Arms-Find conspiracy case for 10 years. In Jail—one year in connection with C.D. movement, two years in Cellular Jail and four years in Mainland Jails.



Mani (Ramani) Ganguly

Mani (Ramani) Ganguly son of late Chinta Haran Ganguly. Born 14. 3. 13. Samantasar, Faridpur now in Bangladesh. A membar of Jugantar Party at the age of 13. Arrested in May 1932 in connection with Damudya Mail action 5-5-32, convicted for 6 years and deported to Cellular Jail. Took part in hunger-strike—May 1933. Detained as a Security prisoner for 4 years in 1942. Total period in Jail—about 11 years.

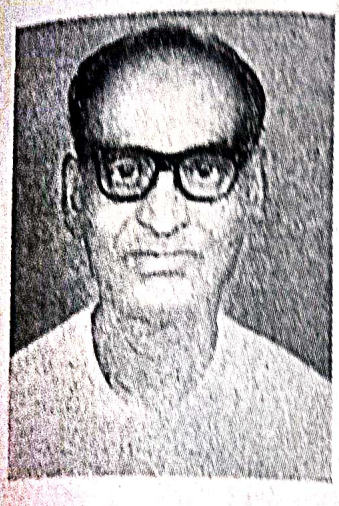


Madan Raychowdhury

Madan Ray Chowdhury son of late Satchit Kumar Roy Chowdhury. Born 11th December—1912 at Tengna, Faridpur now in Bangladesh. A member of Jugantr Party at the age of 12. Arrested in May 1932 and convicted for 6 years in connection with Damudya Mail Action. was in Cellular Jail for about four and a half years. Took Part in hunger-strike in 1933—May. About two years in jail in connection with C.D. movement. Total period in jail—more than 10 years.

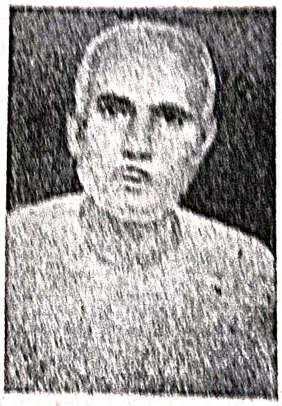
Sudhanghu Kiran Lahiri

Sudhangshu Kiran Lahari son of late Rajendra Kumar Lahiri. Born in 1907 at Usthi, Mymensingh now in Bangladesh. Graduate of Calcutta University. A member of Jugantar Party at the age of 15. Arrested and convicted for 10 years by a Special Tribunal in connection with Kamalpur action. In Cellular Jail for 5 years and 2 years in mainland jails.



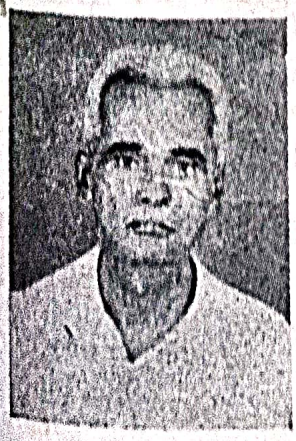
Sudhir Bhattacharya

Born : 1910, Usthi,--Mymansingh (Now in Bangladesh) Belonged to "Yugantar" Party Arrested in connection with Aranyapasha Arms and Explosive seizure incident and was convicted to 6 years' prison term--Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the hunger-strike of 1937--July, 37 days in the Cellular Jail. Total Jail period including internment about 7 years.



Keshablal Chatterjee

Barisal.
Arrested in connection with an armed Action. Sent up for trial and was sentenced to a prison term of five years --20-5-32. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the hunger-strike of 1933, May--45 days. Total Jail period more than five years.



Manindra Chandra Sen

Born : 1916, Bara Mirzapur, Dacca. S/o Late Chandra Kumar Sen. Belonged to "Yugantar" Party. Went underground for revolutionary work. Arrested and convicted in 3 separate cases for a total prison term of twenty five years. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the hunger-strike of 1937, July, 37 days in the Cellular Jail. Repatriated in 1938, January. After release remained for two years' in his home under Government Internment order.

Sushil Das Gupta

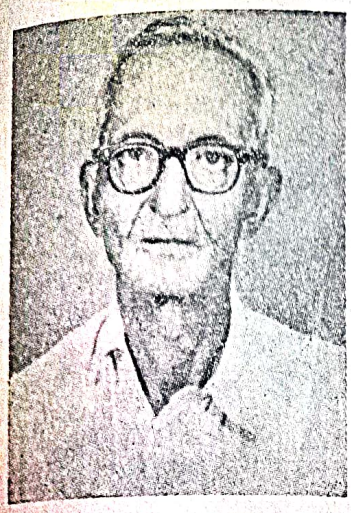
Born : July 10th, 1906. Bagerhat, Khulna, (Now Bangladesh), S/o Late Mohini Mohan Das Gupta. was a B. Sc Student prior to his underground life for six months and subsequent arrest. Belonged to "Sankar Math" group—Barisal. Arrested in connection with Putia Mail Action on 29th September 1929 Sentenced to 6 years' prison term. While in Midnapore Central Jail escaped from there along with Dinesh Mazumdar and Sachin Kar Gupta. Re-arrested and deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the first hunger-strike in cellular Jail, May 1933—45 days. After was detained in 1943—during the "Quit India" movement. Total Jail Period seven years. He is no more in the living. During the communal frenzy, August 1946, met death while leading communal harmong and peace procession in Park Circus area, Calcutta.

Dharani Biswas

Born : 24. 8. 1902, Pingha, Sarisabari, Mymansingh (Now Bangladesh) S/o Late Rajani Biswas. was an intermediate science student. Belonged to Anushilan Samity undergone three months prison term in the Non-co-operation movement, (1921-22). Arrested in connection with Putia Mail Action on 2. 10. 1929. Sentenced to six years' prison term. Deported to the Andamans. Took part in the first hunger-strike in Cellular Jail—1933, May, 45 days. After repatriation and release was kept confined in several prison without trial. Total Jail period about 10 years. He is no more in the living.

Makhan Lal Dey

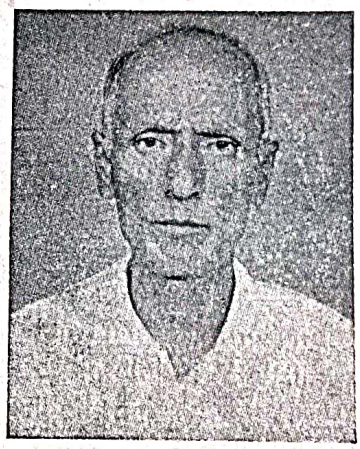
Born ; Falgun—1313. B.S. (1906). Dhamrai, Dacca, (Now Bangladesh). Came in contact with 'Yugantar' Party. Arrested in connection with Dhamrai Mail Action in 1933. Sentenced to five years' prison term. was married before arrest. Deported to the Andamans. Prior to this conviction and deportation was arrested in 1930, during Civil Disobedience movement along with about 50 persons at Mymansingh in connection with an incident known as ware house shooting case. was convicted to 7 years but was released after Ganhi—Irwin pact. Total Jail period about seven years.



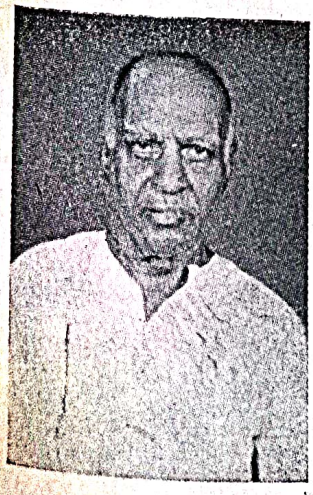
Hem Chandra Bakshi

Born : 1904. Gaibandha, Rangpur (Now Bangladesh) S/o. Late Jogendra Chandra Bakshi. Belonged to 'Yugantar Party'. Participated in the Non-co-operation and Civil Disobedience Movement 1921 and 1930-32. Served about a years' Prison terms in both these movements. Arrested in connection with Naldanga Action rn 1933. Ten persons were convicted in this case of these seven were deported to the Andamans. Awarded 25 years' prison sentence in the Action case and 20 years' term under Arms Act to run concurrently. Sent to Andamans. Took Part in the second hunger-strike in Cellular Jail—July 1937, 37 days. Repatriated in 1938, January. Released in August, 1946.

Born : 23. 10. 1909. Bamanhat, Gaibandha, Rangpur, (Now Bangladesh) S/o. Late Priyanath Basu Roy. Belonged to 'Yugantar Party'. Arrested in October 1933 in connection with Naldanga Action. Sentenced to ten years' prison term in the Action case and another ten years' under Arms & Explosive substance Act. Sentences to run concurrently. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail—July, 1937, 37 days. Repatriated in 1937, November. Released in 1939. Total Jail Period about six years.

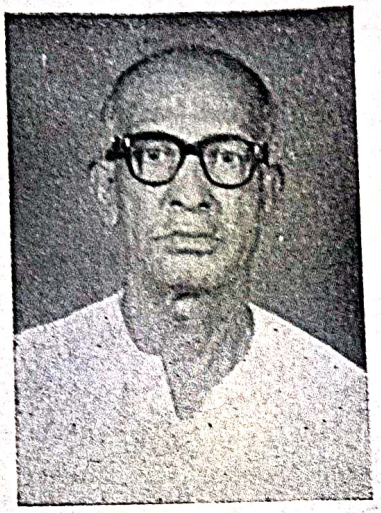


Satish Chan dra Basu Roy



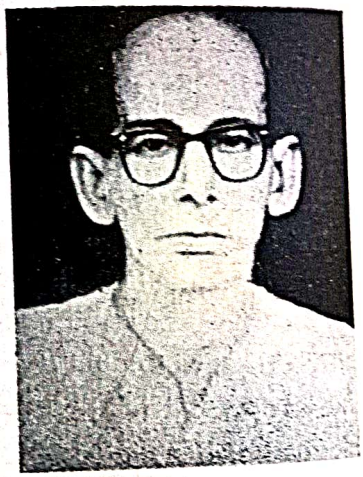
Sachindra Kumar Nandy

Born : 1st July, 1906. Gaibandha, Rangpur, (Now Bangladesh) S/o. Late Surendra Kumar Nandy. Belonged to "Anushilan Samity". Arrested in connection with Naldanga Action in 1933. Awarded Seven years' prison term. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail,—July 1937, 37 days. Total Jail Period Seven years.



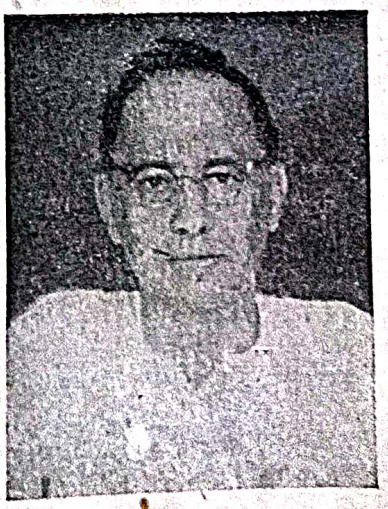
Satya Ranjan Ghose

Satya Ranjan Ghose son of late Durga Das Ghose. Born in 1912 at Basail, Mymensingh now in Bangladesh. A member of Anushilan Samity at the age of 15. Arrested in February 1932 in connection with Charpara action, Tangail, and convicted for 7 years by a Special Tribunal and deported to Cellular Jail. Took Part in the second hunger strike in the Cellular Jail—1937, July, 37 days. Released in 1938. Arrested and detained under D. I. Rules from 1940 to August 1945. Total Jail Period more than Ten years.



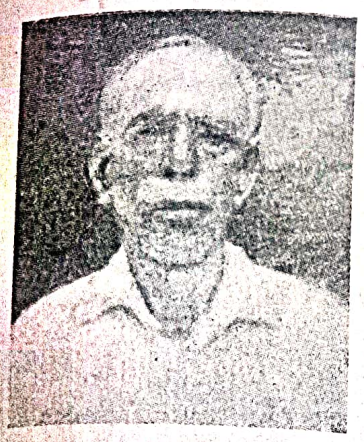
Shashi Mohon Bhattacharya

Late Shashi Mohan Bhattacharjee Son of Late Surendra Chandra Bhattacharjee. Born in 1916 at Bidyakut, Tripura now in Bangladesh. Matriculate. A member of Anushilan Samity at the age of 14. Absconding period about two and a half years. Arrested and convicted for 6 years in connection with Charpara action, Tangail and deported to Cellular Jail. Was in jail for about 6 years and internment for 1 year. He is no more in the living.



Deb Kumar Das

Hails from Barisal, Afterwards settled in Kurigram Rangpur (Now in Bangladesh). Arrested in Calcutta and sent up for trial under Arms Act. Sentenced to Six years' prison term. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the second hunger strike in the Cellular Jail 1937, July, 37 days. Released in 1938. Total Jail Period more than Five years. He is no more in the living.

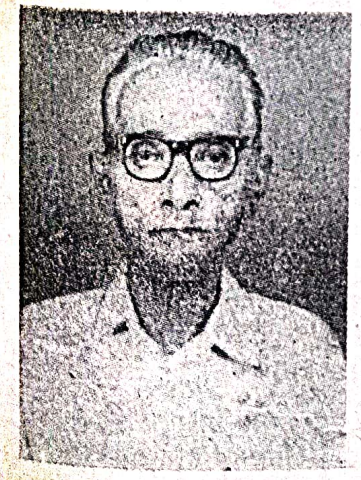


Prafulla Chandra Bhowmick

:Prafulla Chandra Bhowmick son of late Gobinda Chandra Bhowmick. Born in 1913 at Pathuair, Mymensingh now in Bangladesh. A member of Jugantar Party at the age of 16. Absconding period for about 2 years. Arrested and convicted for 5 years in connection with Gangail action and deported to Cellular Jail, Andamans. Was in Cellular Jail for about 5 years. Took part in hunger-strike 1937, July, 37 days.

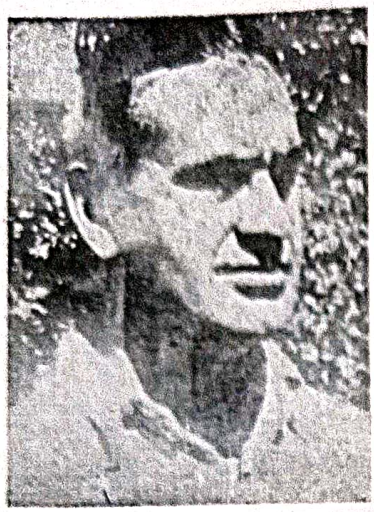
Hrishikesh Dutta

Arrested Howrah, and convicted under Arms Act to five years' prison term. 17. 4. 35. Deported to the Andamans. Took part in the second hunger-strike in the Cellular Jail, 1937, July—37 days. Repatriated in 1937. Released in 1939. He is no more in the living.



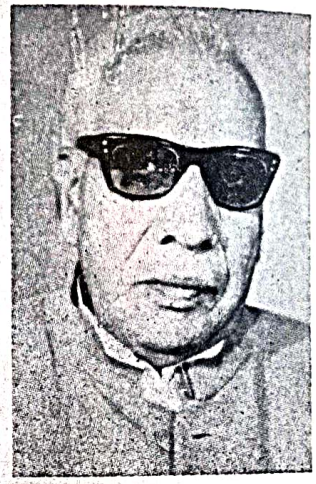
Dwijendra Nath Naha

Dwijendra Nath Naha son of late Dinanath Naha. Born in Patuli, Dacca now in Bangladesh in 1906. A member of Jugantar Party at the age of 16. Absconding period about 6 months. Arrested in connection with Kuliarchar action and convicted for 6 years by a Special Tribunal and deported to Cellular Jail. Released after serving full term.



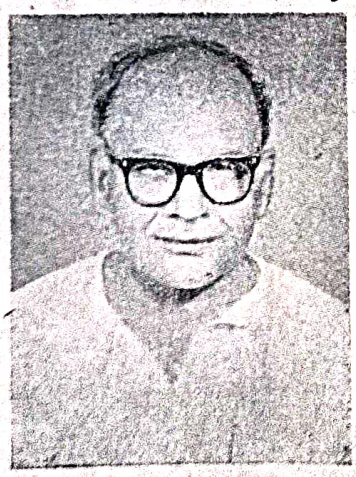
Dhanwantari

A high powered bomb was planted on the Railway track near Hazrat Nizamuddin station a suburb of Delhi with the object of blowing up the in coming special train of the viceroy—Irwin. One Bogie was wrecked but the viceroy escaped unhurt. Dhanwantari was connected with this Action. Later arrested and was put on trial in a case styling Delhi conspiracy case. Sentenced to 7 years' Prison term, April 1933. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the hunger-strike of 1937, July, 37 days in the Cellular Jail. Repatriated in 1937 and was released in 1938. He was a Kashmiri. He is no more in the living. Belonged to H.S.R.A.



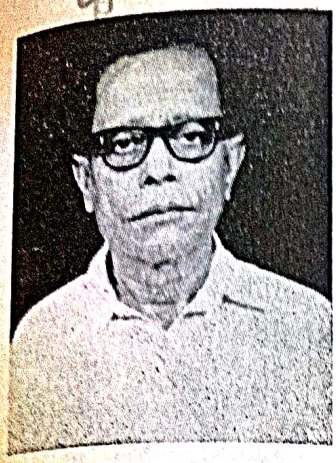
Shyama Charan Bharthwar

Born : 1900—December. Bihar, S/o Late D-Prosad Belonged to H.S.R.A. (Hindusthan Socialist Republican Army). Arrested in 1930 and was awarded a prison term of 2 and one-half years. Put up in trial in the Gaya conspiracy case. Sentenced to prison term of 7 years—1933. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the hunger-strike of 1937, July, 37 days in the Cellular Jail. Repatriated in 1937 and was released in 1938. Kept under detention during the second world war (1939—45) in Deoli Camp. Total Jail period—14 years.



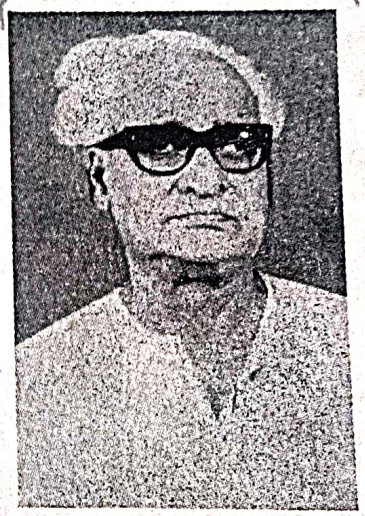
Malay Brahmachari

Hails from Faridpur (Now in Bangladesh). Arrested at Ranchi Bihar,—Sentenced to prison term of eight years under Arms and Explosives Act, 1-11-1933. Deported to the Andamans. Took part in the hunger-strike of 1937, July, 37 days in the Cellular Jail. Repatriated in 1937 and released by 1938. Again was kept in detention in 1942.



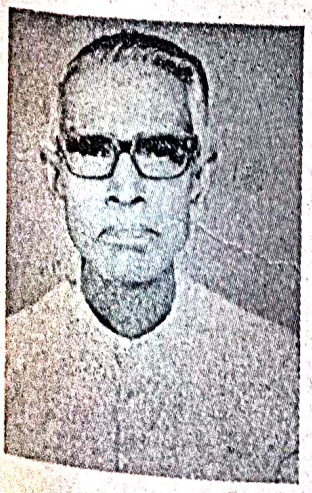
Jagatbandhu Bose

Born : 20th July– 1909 Pukharia, Jessore (Now in Bangladesh) S/o Late Lal Behari Bose. Belonged to "Yugantar" Party. First arrested in 1926 in connection with an Action and was kept confined in Dinajpur Jail. After release went underground and again arrested by a year in connection with Aranyapasha Arms Explosive seizure incident— Dist. Mymansingh and sentenced to 6 years' prison term. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the hunger-strike in the Cellular Jail—1937, July, 37 days. Repatriated In January 1938. After release again suffered detention in prison during the second world war for two years (1940—42). Total Jail period more than ten years.



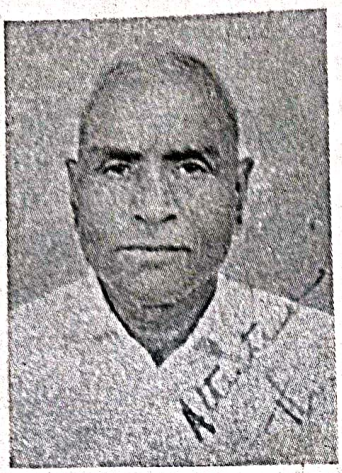
Amar Mukharjee

Arrested in Calcutta and was sentenced to a prison term of five years under Explosive Act.—14-10-31. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the hunger-strike in the Cellular Jail in 1933—May, 45 days. He is no more in the living.



Prafulla Kumar Mazumdar

Born : 1905, Chandanpur—Dacca (Now in Bangladesh) S/o Late Pitamber Majumdar. Belonged to "Yugantar" Party. Went undergound for revolutionary work. Arrested in connection with Aranyapasha Arms and Explosive seizure incident. Sentenced to 7 years' prison term. Deported to the Andamans. Repatriated earlier on medical grounds. Total Jail period about eight years.



Dinesh Chandra Banik

Dinesh Chandra Banik son of late Mohim Chandra Banik. Born in 1907 in Bajitpur, Mymensingh now in Bangladesh. A member of Jugantar Party at the age of 19. Arrested and convicted for 7 years by a Special Tribunal in connection with Kamalpur action. In Cellular Jail for about 4 years and more than three and a half years in mainland jails.

Haribal Chakraborty

Haribal Chakraborty son of late Raj Chandra Chakraborty. Born in 1916 at Usthi, Mymensingh now in Bangladesh. A member of Jugantar Party at the age of 15. Arrested and convicted for 7 years by a Special Tribunal inconnection with Kamalpur action. Was in Cellular Jail for four years and about two years in mainland jails.

Shashin Chakraborty

Shashin Chakrborty son of Late Shyama Charan Chakraborty. Born in Sarmaisha, Mymensingh now in Bangladesh in 1908. A member of Jugantar Party at the age of 13. Absconding period more than four years. Arrested in June 1932 and convicted for six and a half years by a Special Magistrate at Kishoreganj and Netrakona. In Cellular Jail for 3 years. Total period in jail seven years.

Interprovincial Conspiracy Case—1933.

Scores of revolutionary freedom fighters were clapped in from Several Provinces of India and were put up in trial in the aforesaid case. Trial begun on 7. 8. 33 and Judgment given on 1.5. 35. Of the Arms exhibits, locally made pipe guns were exhibited in the case for the first time. More than a dozen revolutionary fighters were deported to the Andamans under various Prison terms.

Provat Chandra Chakraborty

Born : 1307, 20th Paus-B. S. (1901—January). S/o Late Rajmohon Chakraborty. Bardia-Comilla—(Now in Bangladesh). Intermediate Arts. Came into 'Anushilan Samity' by 1918. Was an able organiser and devoted to organising the Samity by 1921 and toured almost all the districts of E. & N. Bengal including Goalpara and Gauhati of Assam. Went underground in 1925 and surfaced in 1928. Arrested in Calcutta on 21st April—1930 under B. C. L A. Interned in a village and escaped from internment in 1932. Arrested in January in 1933 and was sentenced to five years' Prison term under Arms Act. Put up in trial in the Interprovincial Conspiracy Case and was awarded Prison term for life. Deported to the Andamans in 1936. Took part in the hunger strike in the Cellular Jail—1937 July, 37 days and another one in Alipur Central Jail in 1939—July—36 days. Repatriated in January 1938. Released on 31st August 1946. Total Jail Period more than 15 years.

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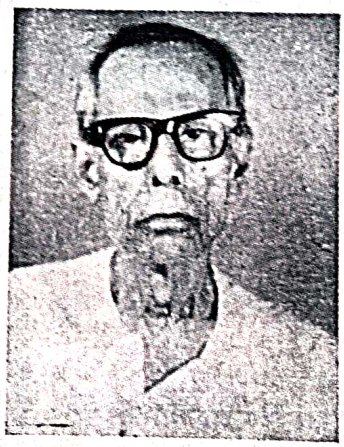


Narendra Prosad Ghosh

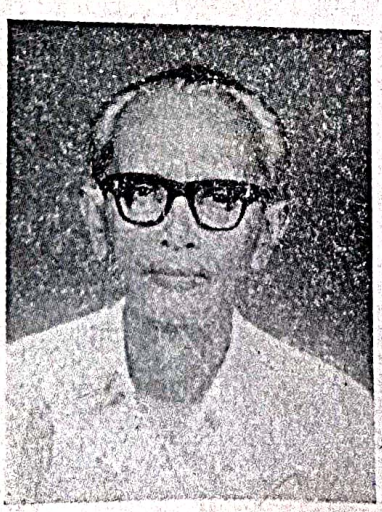
Born : 1904-May. Birsingh-Tangail-Mymensingh (Now in Bangladesh). S/o Late Nilkantha Ghosh. Has been to Burma for organising revolutionary work in Burma on and for behalf of Anushilan Samity. Had made contact with the Burmese revolutionary freedom fighters. While a student of the Engineering Stream of National Education Society (Afterwards known as Jadavpur Eng. College) in the early twenties came in contact with 'Anushilan Samity'. On return from Burma arrested at Dacca in 1932 and was sent up for trial in Chawali Charpara Action and was awarded 7 years' Prison term. Satyaranjan Ghosh (Deported to Andamans) was his co-accused. Subsequent put up as an accused in the Interprovincial conspiracy case and was sentenced to 14 years' Prison term. On appeal commuted to Ten years by the High Court. Deported to the Andamans in 1936. Took part in the second hunger strike in the Cellular Jail—1937, July—37 days and another one in Alipur Central Jail in 1939, July 36 days, Repatriated in 1938, January. Released in August—1946. Total Jail period 14 years.

Satyendranarayan Majumdar

Born : 10.10.1910. Mathabanga, Coochbehar State. S/o. Late Umesh Chandra Majumdar. Graduate. Was a Post-graduate student of Calcutta University at the time of his arrest on 2.1.33. Joined 'Anushilan Samity' in 1927. Served Six months' Prison term in 1932 during Civil Disobedience movement for violating Section 144 in the Dalhousie square (Benoy-Badal-Dinesh Bag) was the acting President of A. B. S. A—Al| Bengal Students Association, during this period, Arrested in connection with Interprovincial conspiracy Case on 2. 1. 33 and sentenced to 7 years' Prison term. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the second hunger strike in the Cellular Jail--1937-July, 37 days. Attempted to escape from Alipur Central Jail in July—1934 while was an under trial prisoner alongwith a few others but could not gain access to the other side of the Jail wall. Took Part in another hunger strike in 1939-July, 36 days. After release arrested under D. I. R. in 1941 and detained till September 1945. Total Jail period about thirteen years. He is a prolific writer both in Bengali and English and has more than a dozen publications on various subjects.

Born : 1st April, 1910. Tahirpur, Rajshahi (Now in Bangladesh) S/o Late Jogesh Chandra Talapatra. Joined 'Anushilan Samity' in 1926/27. Arrested in connection with Interprovincial conspiracy case on 31st December 1932, while he was a B. A. class student in Calcutta. Sentenced to 7 years' Prison term. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the second hunger strike in the Cellular Jail, July—1937, 37 days and another one in Dum Dum Central Jail in 1939, July, 36 days. After release detained under D. I. R. till 1945. Total Jail period thirteen years.

Dwijendranath Talapatra



Bimal Chandra Bhattacharya

Born : 1st April, 1912. Bakaljora, Susang Durgapur, Netrokona, Mymensing (Now in Bangladesh). S/o. Late Bepin Chandra Bhattacharya. Matriculate. Joined Anushilan Samity in his 'teens'. Remained underground for about one and one-half years. Arrested on 31. 12. 32 in connection with Interprovincial Conspiracy Case and was sentenced to Six and four years' Prison terms to run Concurrently. Deported to the Andamans. Took part in the second hunger strike in the Cellular Jail—July 1937, 37 days and another one in Alipur Central Jail in 1939 July, 36 days. Detained under D. I. R. after release till 1945. Total Jail Period thirteen years.

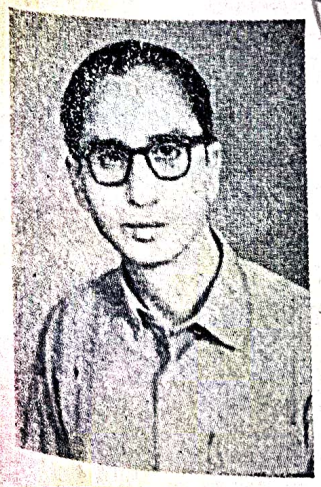
(189)

Born : 24.10.1905. Bhola, Barisal (Now in Bangladesh). S/o. Late Rajendra Kishore De. Was a Diploma holder of Engineering Course of the Bihar & Orrisa Govt. Joined Non-Co-operation Movement of 1921. Came in contact with Ramesh Acharya and Joined 'Anushilan Samity'. In 1927 worked for organising revolutionary activity in Ranchi and Jamshedpur—Bihar. Came over to Calcutta in 1932. Was an expert in making 'Mills' Type Bomb, Bomb thrower and small arms ammunition. Arrested in May 1933 in connection with Interprovincial conspiracy case. Escaped from Alipur Central Jail in July 1934 along with Purnananda Das Gupta and other two revolutionary fighters. Arrested and sentenced to 2 years' prison term for escaping from Jail. Got Seven years' prison term in the Inter provincial case and another one year for violating jail discipline in Midnapore Central Jail. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the second hunger strike in the Cellular Jail, 1937, July 37 days. Repatriated in 1938, January. Took Part in another hunger strike in 1939, July 36 days. Released in 1944 but detained on the spot under D. I. R. Finally released in 1946. Total Jail period Twelve years.

Haripada De

Born 4-5-1911. Akrur Datta Lane, Calcutta. S/o. Late Haradev Mitra. Belonged to 'Anushilan Samity' Arrested in connection with Inter provincial conspiracy case May—31st. 1933. Sentenced to a prison term of Seven years. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the second hunger strike in the Cellular Jail—1937 July 37 days. Repatriated in January 1938. After release detained under D. I. R. Finally released in 1945. Total Jail period Twelve years. He is no more in the living.

Provat Mitra



Surendranath Dhar Chowdhury

Hails from Tipperah. (Now in Bangladesh). Belonged to Anushilan Samity. Arrested in connection with Interprovincial conspiracy case—January 1933. Sentenced to a prison term of Seven years. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the second hunger strike in the Cellular Jail—1937, July, 37 days. Repatriated in January 1938. Took Part in another hunger strike in July 1939, 36 days. After release detained under D. I. R. Finally released in 1945 Total Jail period more than Twelve years. He is no more in the living.

Amulya Sengupta

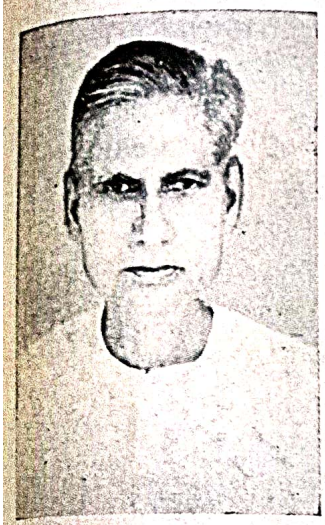
Born : May—1910. Sonarang. Bikrampur, Dacca. (Now in Bangladesh) S/o. Late Basanta Kumar Sengupta. Belonged to 'Anushilan Samity. Arrested in Connection with Interprovincial Conspiracy Case in January 1933. Sentenced to a prison term of Seven years. Deported to the Andamans. Participated in the second hunger strike in the Cellular Jail—1937, July 37 days. Repatriated in January 1938. Took Part in another hunger strike in 1939—July, 36 days. After release from Prison term kept in detention under Defence of India Rules. Released in 1946. Total Jail period more than thirteen years.

Jitendranath Chakraborty

Born—1912. Katarapara—Tiperrah. (Now in Bangladesh) S/o. Late Anathbandhu Chakraborty. He was also a member of 'Anushilan Samity' and resigned from Govt. Service, severed connection with the bar and took to education line. Jitendranath got inspiration from his father. Joined Anushilan Samity. Took part in salt 'Satyagraha' of 1930. Later arrested in December 1932 in connection with Interprovincial conspiracy case. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the second hunger strike in the Cellular Jail 1937. July 37 days. Repatriated in January 1938. Took Part in another hunger strike in 1939, July 36 days. After release detained under D.I.R. Released in 1946. Total Jail period more than thirteen years.

Jyotish Majumdar

Born : 14.2. 1908. Paikardi, Tipperah (Now in Bangladesh) Son of Late Mohim Chandra Mazumdar. Belonged to 'Anushilan Samity'. Before arrest remained underground for about Two years. Arrested in December 1932 in connection with Interprovincial conspiracy case. Sentenced to four and six years' prison term. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the second hunger strike in the Cellular Jail. 1937 July, 37 days. Repatriated in January 1938. Took Part in another hunger-strike in Alipur Jail 1939 July, 36 days. Served prison term during Civil Disobedience Movement of 1930. After release detained under D. I. R. Total Jail period more than thirteen years.



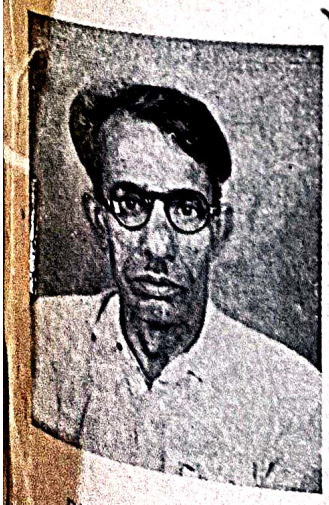
Paresh Guha

Born : 1910, February ; Kukutia, Dacca. Later came over to Rangpur—(Now in Bangladesh). S/o. Late Suresh Chandra Guha. Joined 'Anushilan Samity' in his early "teens". Intermediate Science—Rangpur College. Arrested in 1930, under B. C. L. A. In 1932 interned in a village, Escaped from there. Re-arrested in 1932 and was sent up for trial in the Inter Provincial Conspiracy case. Sentenced to a Prison term of Seven years. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the hunger strike—July, 1937, 37 days. Repatriated in 1938, January. Released in April in 1943 but detained immediately under D. I. R. within the Jail office. Finally realeased in January, 1946. Total Jail period more than fifteen years.

Born : 1st July, 1907. Brahmandanga, Chittagong (Now in Bangladesh) S/o. Late Sarada Ranjan Chowdhury was an Inspector of schools. Gave up Govt. service and joined Anti-Partition Movement of 1905.

Manindralal joined Non-co-operation movement of 1921. In 1923 joined "Anushilan Samity". First arrested at Feni Ryl Station at dead of night after the Feni shooting incident. Detained kept in Buxa Camp. From there sent up for trial in the Interprovincial Conspiracy Case and setenced to a prison term of 7 years. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the hunger strike in July 1937, 37 days. Repatriated in January, 1938. Released by the end of 1939. Total Jail period more than Six years. He is no more in the living.

Manindralal Chowdhury



Bijoy Kumar Ghosh

Birbhum. Arrested in Connection with Birbhum Conspiracy Case. Sentenced to Six years' prison term (29-9-34). Deported to the Andamans, Took Part in the second hunger strike in the Cellular Jail, 1937 July, 37 days. He is no more in the living.

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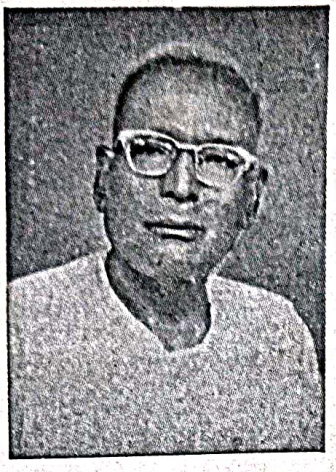
Hilli Ryl Stn. (The then E. B. Ryl) date of Action : 29-10-33

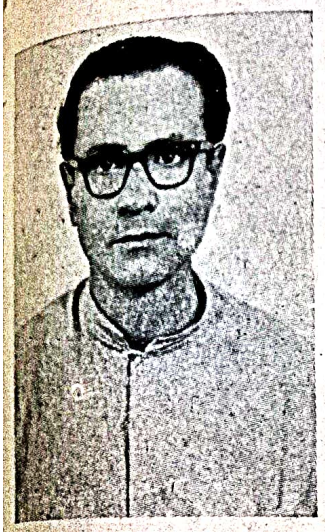


Prankrishna Chakraborty

Born : 1033
Rudrakar, Palong, Faridpur (Now in Bangladesh). S/o. Late Janaki Nath Chakraborty. When he was a third year student of Mitford Medical School, Dacca, gave up studies and engaged in the revolutionary works. Belonged to "Anushilan Samity". Arrested in December 1932, at Jalpaiguri with Arms. Sentenced to a Prison term of Seven years. While being transferred from Jalpaiguri Jail to a Calcutta Jail, escaped from the custody of armed police escort from a running train with convicts' uniform on and with steel hand-cuffs locked on the wrists. Went underground. A reward was declared by the then British Govt. for his arrest. Later arrested on 29-10-33 on the bank of a river in the afternoon following the night raid on Hilli Ryl Stn., The Trial Court sentenced him to death. Commuted by the Hon'ble High Court to a prison term of 25 years on appeal. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the Cellular Jail in the hunger strike of 1937, fell a victim to the brutal punishment of flogging in the Cellular Jail. Repatriated in January 1938. Took Part in another hunger strike—1939, July, 36 days. Released on 31st August, 1946. Total Jail period fourteen years.

Hrishikesh Bhattacharya

Born : 1915. Barabandar, Dinajpur Town (Now in Bangladesh). S/o. Late Ramesh Chandra Bhattacharya—Zamindar. Belonged to "Anushilan Samity". Intermediate science student. Gave up studies and went underground by the middle of 1932. Arrested on 29-10-33, on the bank of a river in the afternoon following the night raid on Hilli Ryl Stn. The Trial Court sentenced him to death. On appeal the Hon'ble High Court commuted the sentence to a prison term of 25 years. Deported to the Andamans. Took part in the hunger strike of July, 1937 in the Cellular Jail, 37 days. Repatriated in January, 1938. Released on 31st August, 1946. Suffered Prison confinement in Dinajpur Jail in connection with the on going Peasant movement Tebhaga—in 1946. Total Jail period about 14 years. Breathed his last in January—1969.

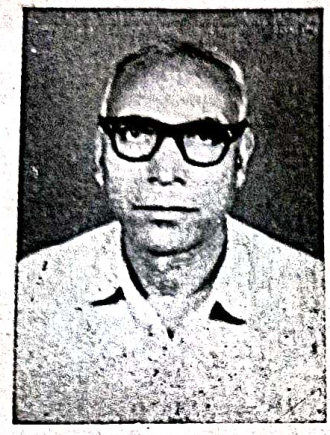


Satyabrata Chakravarti

Born : 12. 3. 1916 at Dinajpur Town (Now in Bangladesh). Son of Late Kali Kumar Chakravarti—service-holder. Was a student of I. A in Rajsahi College. At the age of 12 came in contact with the Anushilan Party. He was wanted in the Luke Shooting Case (1932), but evaded arrest for about a year. Mr. Luke Superintendent, Rajsahi College. Jail was shot in Nov. 1932 ; Luke was seriously injured and had to resign and go back to England. Arrested on 29. 10. 33 in connection with the Hilli action. Awarded death sentence. Commuted to 10 years Prison term by the High Court on appeal. Participated in the 2nd Hunger strike in the Cellular Jail July 1937—37 days. Repatriated in 1938 January. Another hunger strike in 1939-July 36 days. After realease in 1942 was rearrested and kept in detention. Took active part in Peasant movements in 1946 and 1947. Total Jail period—12 years.

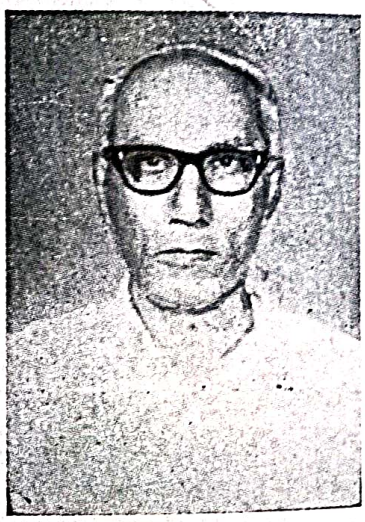
Born at Dinajpur (Now in Bangladesh) on 1. 3. 1915. S/o. Late Anandamohan Basu—A legal Practitioner. Joined the Anushilan Party at an early age. Was an I. Sc. student. Arrested on 29. 10. 33 in connection with the Hilli action. Awarded death sentence. Commuted 10 years Prison term on appeal. Participated in the 2nd Hunger strike in the Cellular Jail—1937 July 37 days. Repatriated in 1938-January. Took Part in another hunger strike in July 1939-36 days. Released in May 1942, but rearrested at the Jail gate as a security prisoner. Released in September 1945. Total Jail period—about 12 years.

Sarojkumar Bosu



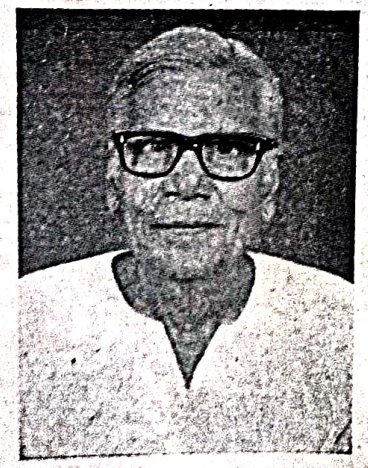
Prafullya Narayan Sanyal

Hilli Ryl. Station Raid—Date of Action 29-10-33. Born : 1911. Bilaskhan, Pallong, Faridpur (Now in Bangladesh) S/o Late Karuna Kanta Sanyal. Belonged to 'Anushilan Samity'. Gave up studies to devote himself in revolutionary work. Arrested on 29-10-33 on the Bank of a river some forty miles away from Hilli Ryl Station. Sentenced to prison term for life. On appeal commuted by the Hon'able Hight Court to Ten years' prison term. Deported to the Andamans. One of the hunger strikers of July, 1937, 37 days in the Cellular Jail. Repatriated in January 1938. Took Part in another hunger strike in July 1939 in Dum-Dum Central Jail—36 days. On completion of the prison term was detained under D.I.R. Finally released in the fall of 1945. Total Jail period twelve years



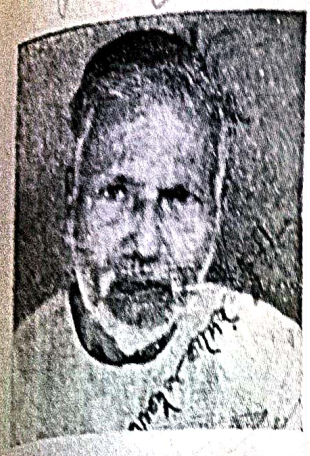
Haripada Bose

Born : 29-5-1913. Deobhog, Pallong, Faridpur (Now in Bangladesh) S/o Late Gangaprosad Basu Belonged to 'Anushilan Samity' went underground for revolutionary work. Arrested on 29-10-33 on the bank of a river some forty miles away from Hilli Ryl Station. Sentenced to Ten years' prison term. On appeal commuted by the Hon'able High Court to Seven years' term. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the hunger strike in the Cellular Jail—1939, 37 days. Repatriated in January, 1938 Previously took part in two Mail Actions, Gouripur and Chandpur in Commilla. After release was interned for more than two years. Total Jail Period about Nine years.



Ramkrishna Sarkar

Born : 24-6-1908. Joypurhat, Bogura (Now in Bangladesh) S/o Late Ramdyal Sarkar. Arrested in the first week of November in connection with Hilli Station Raid Action. Sentenced to Ten years' prison term. On appeal commuted to Seven years' prison term by the Hon'able High Court. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the hunger strike of July, 1937, 37 days in the Cellular Jail. Repatriated in 1938. After release had to remain under Police surveillance for long.

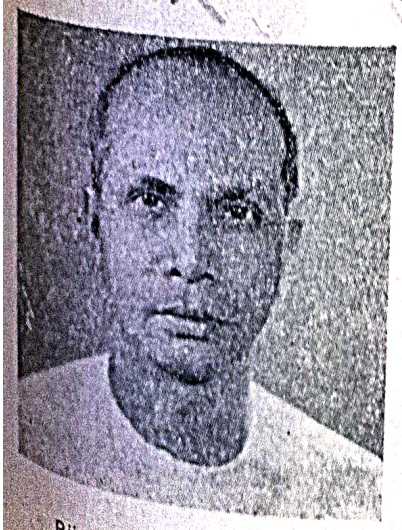


Abdul Kader Chowdhury

Hilli Ryl Station Raid Action—date of Action 29-10-33
Born : 10th November, 1901. Samshiba, Kantahar, Bogura (Now in Bangladesh) S/o Late Abdul Lalif Chowdhury. Qualified as Allopathic Physican from a Dacca Medical school. Suffered Also prison term in the Non-co-operation of Movement of 1921. Also suffered prison term in the C. D. Movement of 1930-31. His Allopathic Medicine dispensary was confiscated by the then British Government for realisation of a five of Rs 300/- during the C.D. Movement. Later Joined 'Anuseilan Samity'. Arrested in connection with Hilli Station Raid Action in the first week of November. Sentenced to transportation for life. On appeal commuted by the Hon'able High Court to Seven years' prison term. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the hunger strike of July, 1937, 37 days in the Cellular Jail. Repatriated in January 1938. Released in the fall of 1939. After release devoted himself whole heartedly in the developing peoples' movement in Bogura district. Total Jail period more than Seven years.

Born : 1908. S/o Late Nabadwip Chandra De. Hails from Dacca. Settled down in Birampur, Fulbari Dinajpur, (Now in Bangladesh) Arrested in connection with Hilli Station Raid Action. Sentenced to a prison term of life. On appeal commuted by the Hon'able High Court to a prison term of five years. Deported to the Andamans, Took part in the hunger strike of July, 1937, 37 days. Repatriated in January 1938. Released by the end of 1939. Total Jail period more than five years,

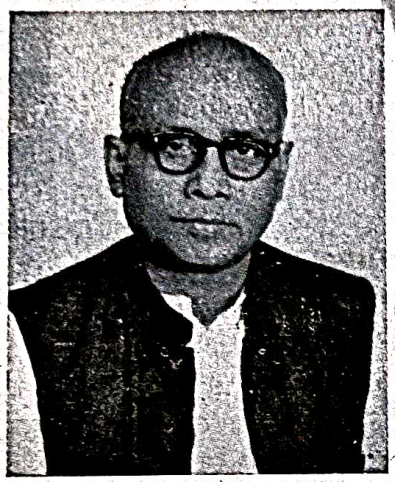
Kiran Chandra De



Bijoy Banerjee nee Chakraborty

Bron : 1916. S/o Late Mathuranath Banerjee Lohaganj Dacca (Bangladesh) Belonged to Anushilan Samity and did revolutionary work in Naogaon (Bangladesh). Arrested by June 1934 in connection with Hilli Station Raid Action. In a supplementary trial he was sentenced to a prison term of Ten years. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the Cellular Jail in the hunger strike of the July, 1937, 37 days. Repatriated in January, 1938. Released by early forties on medical grounds. Total Jail period more than Ten years. Previously suffered prison term during C.D. movement 1930.

Revolutionary freedom fighters belonging to 'Bengal volunteers' resolved to inflict extreme punishment on D. M. of Midnapore district, Burge. Accordingly, on 2-9-1933 on the foot-ball ground of the Midnapore town, the revolutionaries successfully executed their decesion by shooting down the D, M. In the course of the actions Anathbandhu Panja and Mrigen Datta met death on the spot of action from police firing. In the trial that followed Ramkrisna Roy, Brajabhusan Chakraborty and Nirmaljiban Ghosh were sentenced to death and Santigopal Sen, Sukumar Sengupta, Kamakhyacharan Ghosh, Sanatan Roy and Nandadulal Sinha were sentenced to life transportation and were deported to the Andamans.

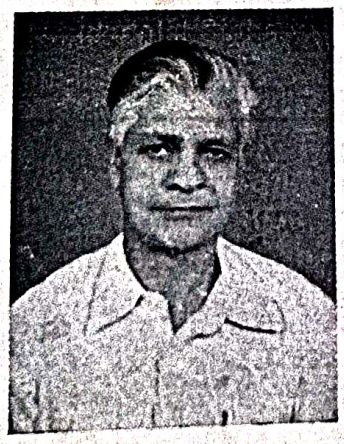


Santigopal Sen

Born : 25-12-1914. Chittagong. While he was a student of Midnapore college went underground in connection with Burge Action. Arrested in January 1934 and awarded life sentenced in a supplementary Burge Action case. Deported to the Andamans participated in the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail—1937 July 37 days. Repatriated in 1938, January. Took part in the hunger strike July, 1939, 36 days in Alipur Central Jail. Released on 31st August 1946 Total Jail period 13 years.

Sukumar Sengupta

Born : 1913, S/o Late Charuchandra Sen. Arrested in connection with Burge Action when he was an intermidiate science student in Midnapore College, Sentenced to transportation for life. Deported to the Andamans. Participated in the second hunger strike in cellular jail, July 1937, 37 days and another one in Alipur central jail in 1939 July, 36 days. Released on 31st August, 1946. Total jail period 13 years,

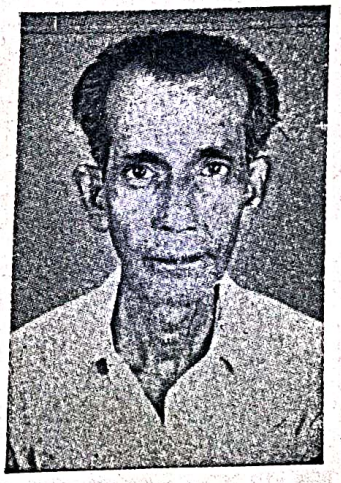


Kamaksha Ghosh

Born : April, 1914, Midnapore. Arrested in connection with Burge Action, Sentenced to transportation for life. Participated in the second hunger strike in cellular jail 1937 July, 37 days, and another one in Alipore Central Jail 1939 July, 36 days. Released on 31st August, 1946. Total Jail period 13 years.

Sanatan Roy

Born : 1917, Midnapore Town, S/o Late Kishoripati Roy. Arrested in connection with Burge Action while was a intermidiate science student of Midnapore College, Sentenced to transportation for life, Deported to the Andamans, Repatriated and released earlier, Total Jail period about Five and half years,



Umesh Chandra Bhattacharya

Born : 12th April 1916, Ramsitapara, Nabadwip, Nadia, S/o Late Kedarnath Bhattacharya, Arrested in connection with Nabadwip Arms scizure case 1933 March. Sentenced to six years' prison term, Deported to the Andamans, Participated in the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail—1937 July, 37 days. Repatriated in 1937. Released September 1939. Total Jail period more than Six years.

Bimal Kumar Sarker

Bishnupur—Bankura, S/o Late Satish Chandra Sarker. Matriculate, Arrested in 1933 in connection with Bishnupur Mail Action, Belonged to Yugantar Party, There was another co-accured, Mritunjoy Bonerjee, Sentenced to 5 yrs Rigionrous imprisonment, Deported to the Andamans. Participated in the second hunger strike in Cellular Jail—37 days, Repatriated in 1937 and was released in 1939 Total Jail period about Six years. He is no more in the living.

Sudhir Chowdhury

Fatehabad, Chittagong (Now in Bangladesh). Arrested in connection with Bathua Action and conspiracy case and sentenced to Six years' prison term. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the hunger strike in the Cellular Jail, 1937, July, 37 days. Repatriated in January 1938. Released in 1939. Total Jail Period more than five years.

Sudhindramohon Roy

Dacca. (Now in Bangladesh). Arrested in connection with a revolutionary Action and sentenced to a long prison term. Deported to the Andamans. Repatriated in January 1938. Served full term of sentence. Total Jail period more than Six years.

Keshwa Prasad

Gaya—Bihar. Participated in the C. D. Movenment 1930-32. Joined Hindustan Socialist Republican Army. Arrested in Gaya in connection with Explosives & Arms seizure incident. Put up in the trial in the Gaya conspiracy case and sentenced to a prison term of 7 years—1933. Deported to the Andamans. Took Part in the hunger strike of 1937 July, 37 days. Repatriated in 1937 and was released by 1938. Again suffered detention during 1942. In early seventies he turned a Sanyasi and took a Ashram—life in Brindaban. He is no more in the living.

Freedom Fighters Deported to Andamans

In Connection With First War Of INDEPENDENCE, 1857

1.	Shri Alama Fazal Huque	(U. P.)
2.	,, Bahadur Goonburah	(Assam)
3.	,, Bahadur Singh	(M. P.)
4.	,, Bhim Nayek	(,,)
5.	,, Devi	(,,)
6.	,, Dutiram Barua	(Assam)
7.	,, Dudhnath Tiwari	×
8.	,, Futta	(M. P.)
9.	,, Garabdas Patel	(Gujrat)
10	,, Gulab Khan	(M. P.)
11.	,, Hatte Singh	(Orissa)
12.	,, Himanohal Singh	(U. P.)
13.	,, Jawhar Singh	(M. P.)
14.	,, Kura Singh	(U. P.)
15.	,, Liaqut Ali	(,,)
16.	,, Loney Singh	(,,)
17.	,, Madhu Mallik	(Assam)
18.	,, Maulvi Syed Aluddin	(Hyderabad)
19.	,, Mahibullah	(M. P.)
20.	,, Manju Shah	(,,)
21.	,, Maya Ram	(,,)
22.	,, Mir Jafar Ali Thaneswari	×
23.	,, Narayan	(Bihar)
24.	,, Noora	(M. P.)
25.	,, Niranjan Singh	×
26.	,, Qaim Khan	(M. P.)
27.	,, Sirajuddin	(,,)
28.	,, Seikh Formud Ali.	(Assam)
29.	,, Venkat Rao	(M. P.)

Wababi Rebels Deported to Andamans (1860—1870)

1. Ahmadulla (Patna Trial, 1865)
2. Amiruddin (Maldah Trial, 1870)
3. Ibrahim Mandal (Rajmahal Trial, 1870)
4. Md. Sher Ali
5. Yahya Ali (Ambala Trial, 1864)

Mopalh Rebeles Deported to Andamans (1922 1924)

1. Nelliparamban Alavi Haji
2. Kolaparamban Kunjalavi
3. Kozhisseri Koya Kutty
4. Ambattuparamban Saidalippa
5. Kayakkatiparambil Kunjeni
6. Machingal Rayin
7. Kuthukallan Kunjara
8. Chungath Athan
9. Variyath Valappil Ahammed Kutty
10. Mattummal Ahammed Kutty
11. Pooyikunnan Marakkar
12. Machincheri Alavi
13. Pokat Koyarni
14. Puthampeedikayil Kunjikader Molla
15. Mukri Kunjayammu
16. Poolakuyyil Kunhi Moideen Kutty
17. Poovakundi Alavi
18. Neehiyil Kunjeedu
19. Aripra Pocker
20. Mattummal Marakkar
21. Chakkupurakkal Kutty Hasan

Revolutionary freedom fighters incarcerated in the cellular jail Andamans whose Photos could not collected.

Period 1910–1921

BOMBAY

1. Dazi Narayan Doshi
2. Ganesh Domodar Sovarkar

PUNJAB

3. Ali Ahwed Siddiqui
4. Bhai Paramananda
5. Many Sikh prisoners' yet not found

U. P.

6. Govinda Ram
7. Mukhada Babu
8. Mujtaba Hussain
9. Roshan Lal

BENGAL

10. Abani Bhusan Chakraborty
11. Ashutosh Lahiri
12. Bhupendra Nath Ghosh
13. Brajendra Nath Datta
14. Gobinda Chandra Kar
15. Hemendra Bhattacharya
16. Hem Chandra Das (Kanango)
17. Hrishikesh Kanjilal
18. Jatindra Nath Nandi
19. Kalidas Ghosh
20. Khagandra Nath Chowdhury (alias Suresh Chandra)
21. Kinuram Pai
22. Nagendra Nath Chandra
23. Nagendra Nath Sarkar
24. Nikunja Behari Paul
25. Nirapada Roy
26. Phani Bhusan Roy
27. Sachindra Nath Datta
28. Sachindra Lal Mitra
29. Sanukul Chatterjee
30. Satish Ch. Chatterjee (Bhattacharya)
31. Sudhir Kumar Sarkar
32. Surendra Nath Biswas
33. Suresh Chandra Sengapta
34. Visnu Saran Dublis 1923–1932

Period, August 1932–January 1938

U. P.

1. Bachu Lal
2. Prem Prakash

BIHAR

3. Chandrika Singh
4. Jogendra Sukul
5. Kamal Nath Tewari
6. Kanhaiya Lal Misir
7. Mahavir Misir
8. Mohit Adhikari
9. Nanku Singh
10. Pramatha Nath Ghosh
11. Ram Pratap Singh
12. Suraj Nath Chaube

BENGAL

15. Abani Mukherji
16. Amar Sutradhar

17. Ananta De
18. Ananta Mukherji
19. Bhaba Ranjan Pututandu
20. Bhabatosh Karmakar
21. Bharat Sarma Roy
22. Bhuban Mohan Chandra
23. Bhupendra Chandra Bhattacharjee
24. Bhupesh Chandra Banerjee
25. Bidyadhar Saha
26. Bijan Kumar Sen
27. Biren Chowdhury
28. Chitta Biswas
29. Chitta Ranjan Dutta
30. Dharani Chakraborty
31. Dharanidhar Roy
32. Dhirendra Kumar Biswas
33. Dhiren Dutta
34. Dhirendra Nath Bhattarcharya
35. Dinesh Dhar
36. Dinesh Chandra Saha
37. Gagan Chandra Dey
38. Gabinda Kar
39. Gobinda Prasad Bera
40. Gopal Chandra Deb
41. Gour Gopal Dutt
42. Harihar Dutta
43. Hem Chandra Dutta
44. Indu Bhusan Dss
45. Jagat Roy
46. Jagheswar Das
47. Janaki Das
48. Jatindra Dey
49. Jayesh Bhatterchraya
50. Jiban Molla
51. Jitendra Nath Gupta
52. Jitendra Muzumder
53. Jogesh Chakraborty
54. Kalimohan Banerjee
55. Kalipada Bhatterchraya
56. Kali Prasanna Bhattacharya
57. Kamini Dey
58. Kashab Samajdar
59. Krisna Biswas
60. Khitish Chandra Roy
61. Kumud Mokherji
62. Lalit Chakraborty
63. Lalit Singh
64. Madhu Sudan Dutta
65. Md. Ibrahim (Tara Pada)
66. Mahesh Barua
67. Manindra Dey
68. Manmatha Dutta
69. Man Mohan Saha
70. Mathura Nath Dutta
71. Mohan Lal Nag
72. Mohan Kisore Nama Dass
73. Murari Goswami
74. Nagendry Nath Gupta
75. Nogen Modak
76. Nanda Dulal Singh
77. Nepal Sarkar
78. Nibaran Chakraborty
79. Nirendra Barua
80. Paresh Chandra Chakraborty
81. Phani Nandy
82. Prakash Chandra Seal
83. Pran Gopal Mukherjee
84. Provash Kumar Roy
85. Purna Goswami
86. Purnendu Sekhar Guha
87. Rabindra Banerjee
88. Radhika Dey (Das)
89. Rajani Kanta Sarkar
90. Rajmohan Karanjai
91. Reboti Mohan Shaha
92. Sachindra Chandra Home
93. Sailesh Dutta
94. Samadhesh Ch. Roy
95. Santipada Chakraborty
96. Sarat Dhopidas
97. Saroshi Mohan Maitra
98. Sudhendu Ch. Dam
99. Sudhir Kumar Samajdar
100. Suren Acherjee
101. Suren Banik
102. Surendra Nath Dutta
103. Surendra Nath Datta
104. Suren Sarkhel
105. Upen Seal
106. Binoy Laskar
107. Gopen Roy

Madras

1. Pratibadi Vyankar Venkatachary

ERRATA

Covers the Bio-data with Photo Blocks

Barindra Kumar Ghosh : Read "Born at" before "Croydon"

Prithvi Singh Azad : Read "Baba" instead of "babu"

Kshitish Chandra Sanyal : Sixth line, Read "accused" instead of 'accessed".

Bhai Bhan Singh : fifth line, Read "Lust" instead of "last"

Sovabazar Conspiracy : first line, Read "Bomb" instead of "Bom". Second line and third line, Read "assasination instead of assacination"

Rakhal Chandra Dey : third line, Read "close" instead of "closed"

Jyotish Chandra Paul : Sixth line, Read "fatally" instead of "falaby". Eighth line. Read "succumbed" instead of "succkmed"

Pundit Paramanand : (Jhansi) Breathed his last on 13-4-1982.

Sukhendu Dastidar : Third line, Read "severely" instead of "sevarely"

Haripada Bhattacharya : Second line, Read "awarded" instead of "anvarded"
Fifth line, Read "notorious" instead of notoriaus"
Eighth line, Read "strike" instead of "striket" Read "there" instead of "here"

Hridayranjan Das : Seventh line, Read "Leaked" instead of "licked"

Hazara Singh : Thirteenth line, Read "bound" instead of "found"

Biswanath Mathur : Fifth line, Read "violating" instead of "violaling"

Khusiram Mehta : He is no more in the living.

Ramchandra Das : First line, Read "Faridabad" instead of "Yaridabad"

Benoy Bose : Second line, Read "I. Sc" instead of "Sc. I."

Sitangsu Datta Roy alias Khusu Datta Roy : Fourth line. Read "detained" instead of "delained"

Rajat Bhusan Dutta : 9th line, Read "more" instead of "move"

Umasankar Kongar : 11th line, Read "internment" instead of "interment"

Haripada Banerjee : 9th line, Read "1940-45" instead of "1930-45"

Gopi Mohan Shaha : 6th line, Read "internment" instead of "interment"

Sheik Gamiruddin : 7th line, Read "each term" instead of "eactermh"

Anil Mukherjee : 2nd line, Read "teens" instead of "tees"

Kamala kanta Sreemani ; Breathed his last in March 1982

Makhanlal Dey : 10th line, Read "Gandhi—Irwin" instead of "Ganhi—Irnin"

Prankrishna Chakraborty : 1st line, Read after Born "1909" instead of "1033"

Abdul Kader Chowdhury : 9th line, Read "fine" instead of "five"

Umesh Chandra Bhattacharya : 3rd line, Read "seizure" instead of "scizure"

Bimal Kumar Sarkar : 5th line, Read ' rigourous" instead of "Rigionrous"

R. I. Stands for Rigourous Imprisonment.
B. C. L. A. Stands for Bengal Criminal Law Amendment Act.
D. I. R. Defence of India Rules—Promulgated during second world war, 1939—1945.
Under these Acts any person could be arrested and detained in prison without trial for indefinite period.

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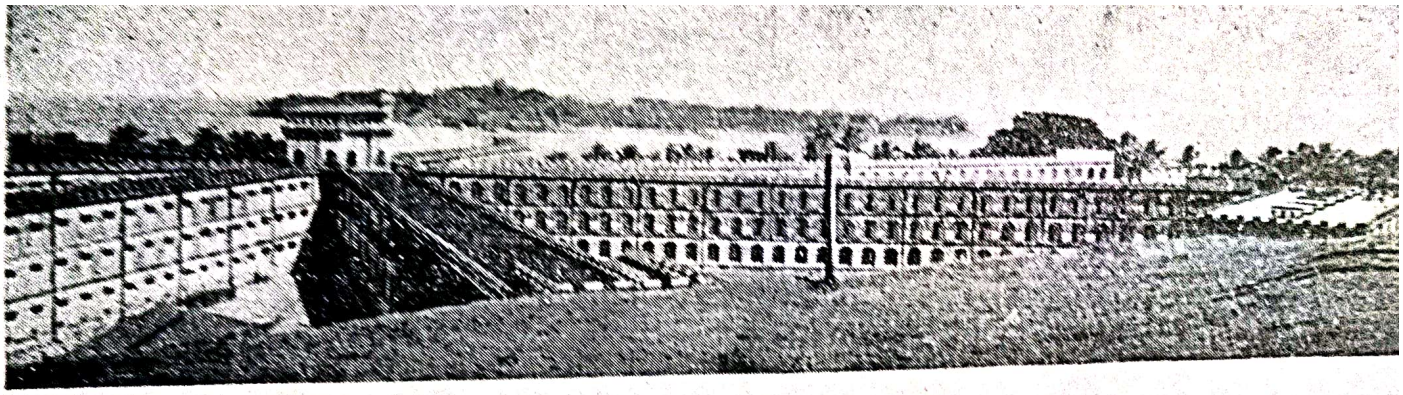
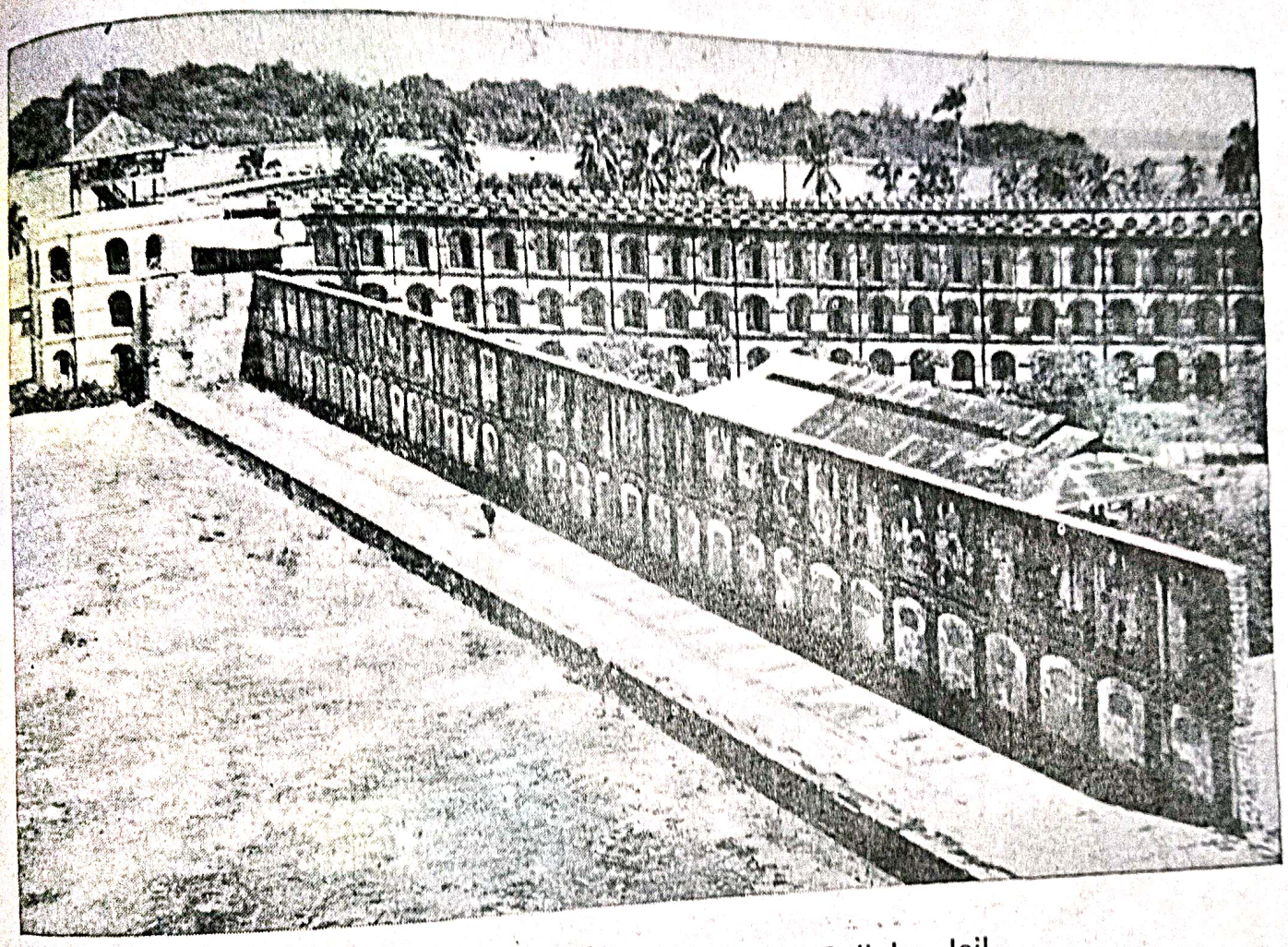
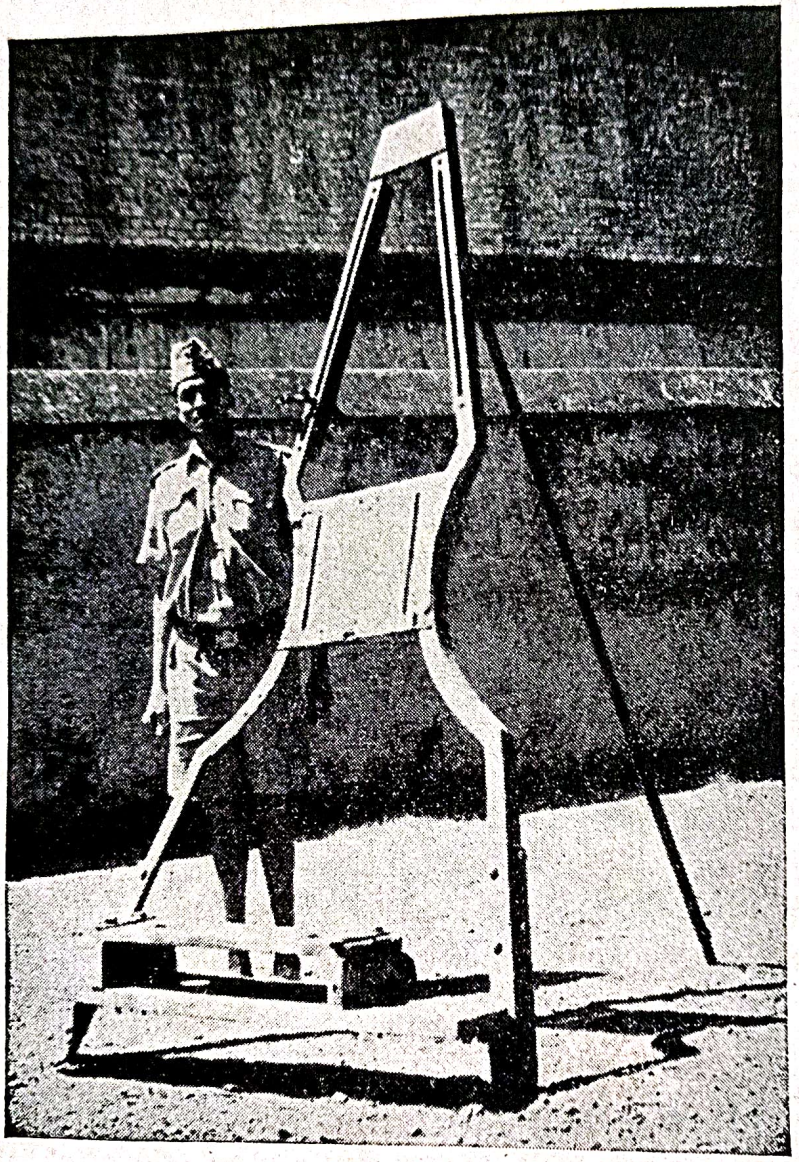


The notorious Cellular Jail—Panoramic view before demolition of certain wings

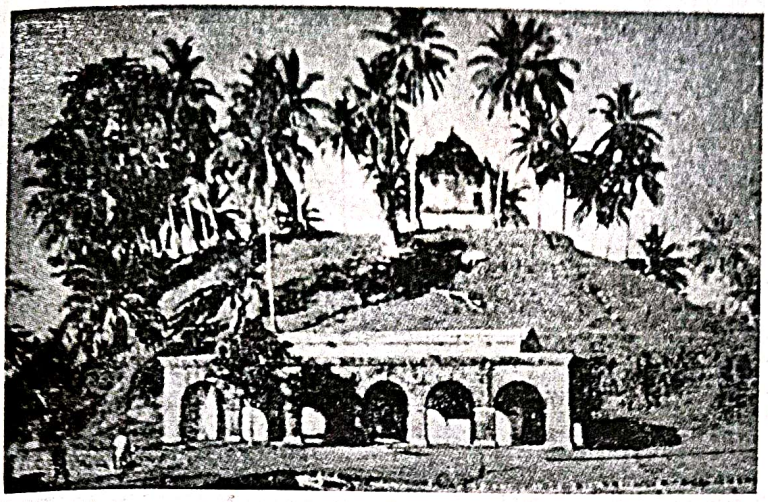
30th December, 1943 Netaji Subhas having a look at the "Indian Bastille"—The Cellular Jail.



The remaining wards of the Cellular Jail.



Barefaced Brutality—The flogging Triangle

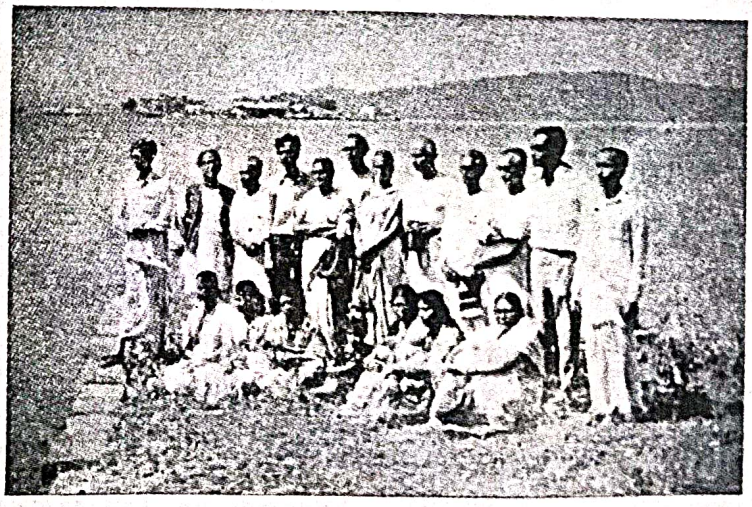


The Shrine—It is here, where **Sherali** the intrepid Pathan Freedom Fighter was hanged to death. The place is known as viper island.

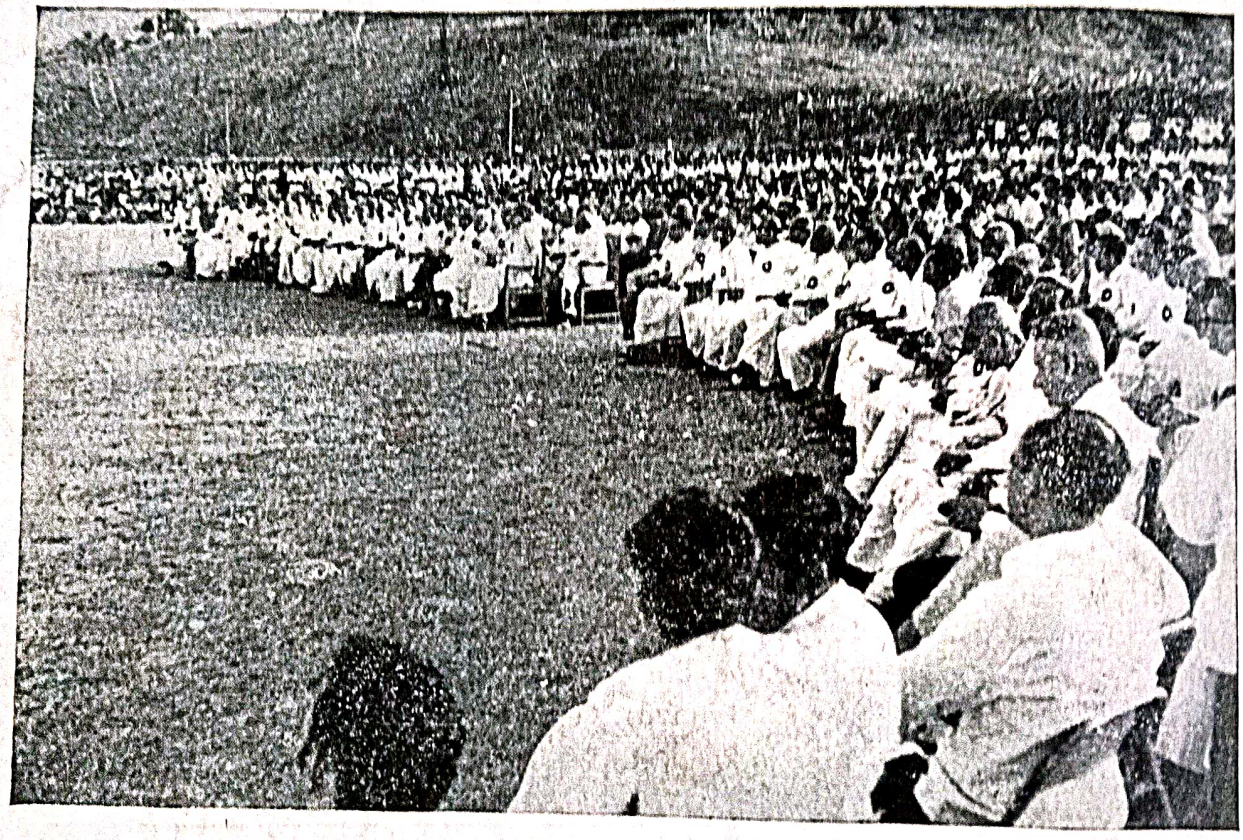
Gist of **Sher Ali's statement at the** time of his trial (from Madan Bhaumik's 'Āndāmāne Dasbatsar).

"The Authorities are carrying on inhuman and merciless treatment towards the prisoners ; their oppressive and repressive measures know no limit. To remedy these many complaints have been made, but the Govt. have turned a deaf ear to them."

"If, by Courting Death, the intolerable sufferings of my fellow-prisoners could be lessened a bit, if the heavy burden of their miserable lives could be lightend to some extent, I should deem my sacrifice a glorious one. Considering this, I deliberately set myself to this great act (i. e. murder of Lord Mayo). I am not at all repentant for what I have done, and think myself fortunate in facing Death like a true Pathan."



The one and the **only** :
Viceroy, Lord Mayo was stabbed to death by **Sherali,** at this place called Hopetown Jetty.
A batch of pilgrims—February 1975.



26th January 1974, Reception Meeting. The pilgrims to the Andaman with the local people.